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The Mesa Arizona Temple

The Temple, dedicated eighty years ago this October, is known for its history of "firsts," as the first temple to be built outside of Utah in the continental United States and the first to present the entire endowment session in a language other than English.

Photo by Richard Webb

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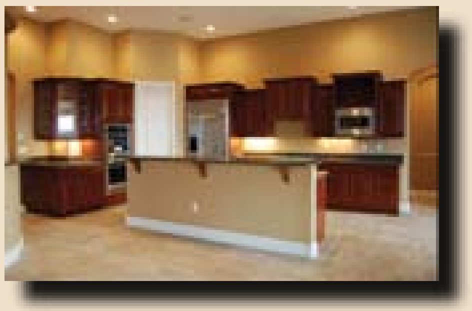
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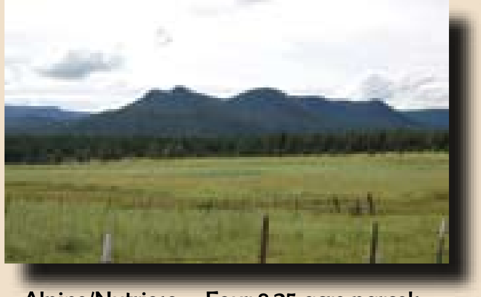
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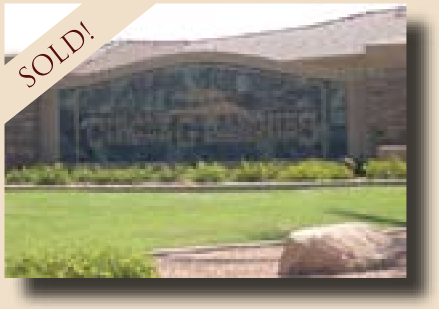

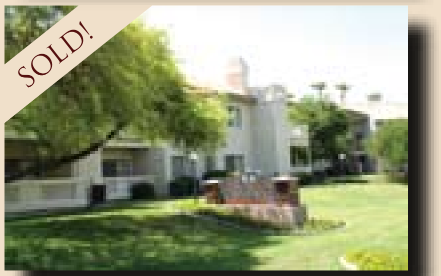

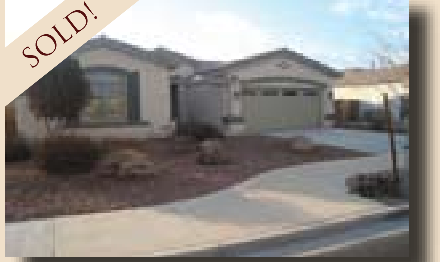

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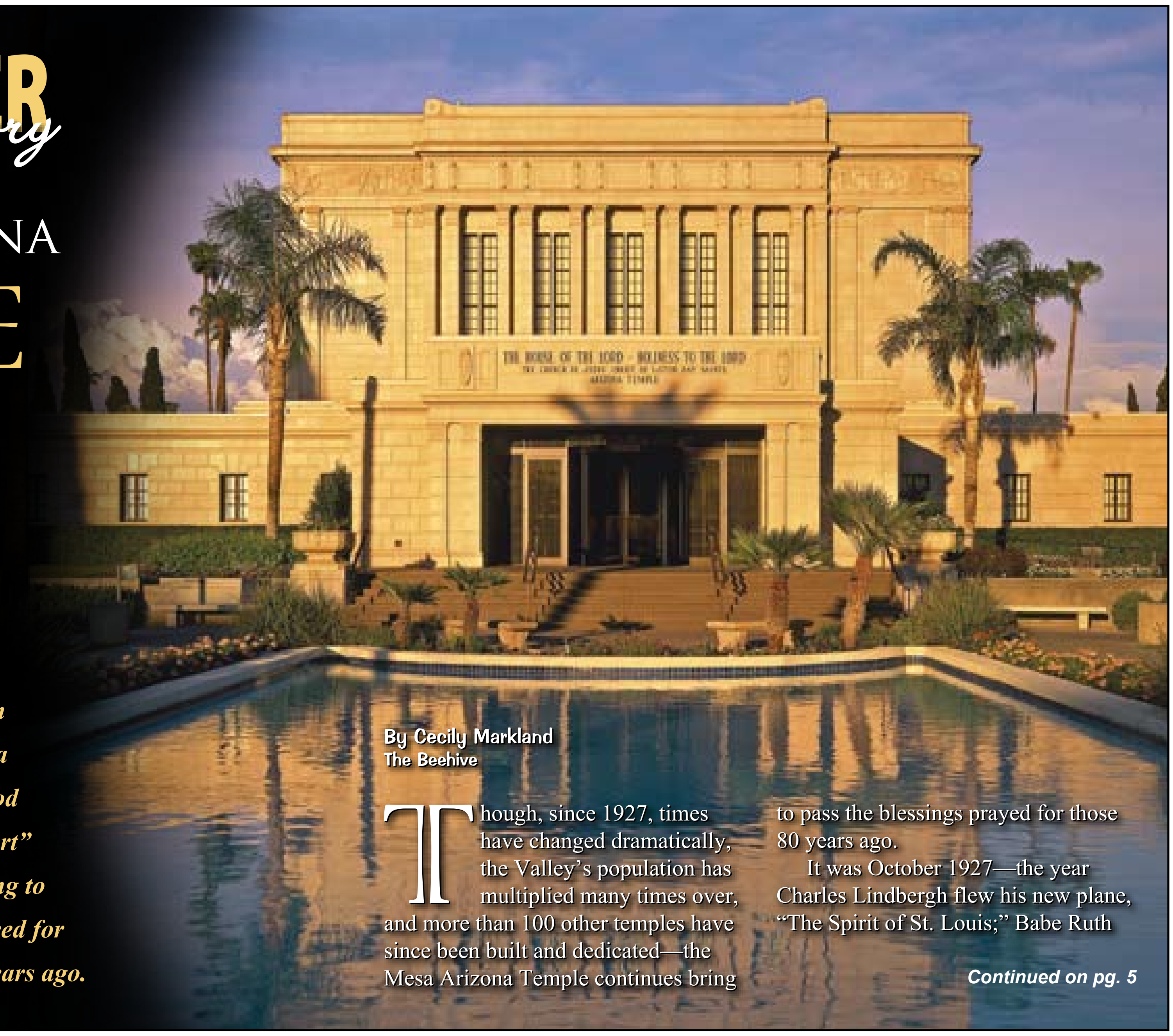
COVER Story

The Mesa Arizona TEMPLE

A Light in the Desert for the Past 80 Years

Since its dedication in October 1927, the Mesa Arizona Temple has stood has a “light in the desert” and continues to bring to pass the blessings prayed for those 80 years ago.


THE HOUSE OF THE LORD · HOLINESS TO THE LORD
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
ARIZONA TEMPLE

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Though, since 1927, times have changed dramatically, the Valley’s population has multiplied many times over, and more than 100 other temples have since been built and dedicated—the Mesa Arizona Temple continues bring to pass the blessings prayed for those 80 years ago.

It was October 1927—the year Charles Lindbergh flew his new plane, “The Spirit of St. Louis;” Babe Ruth

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Photo by Richard Webb

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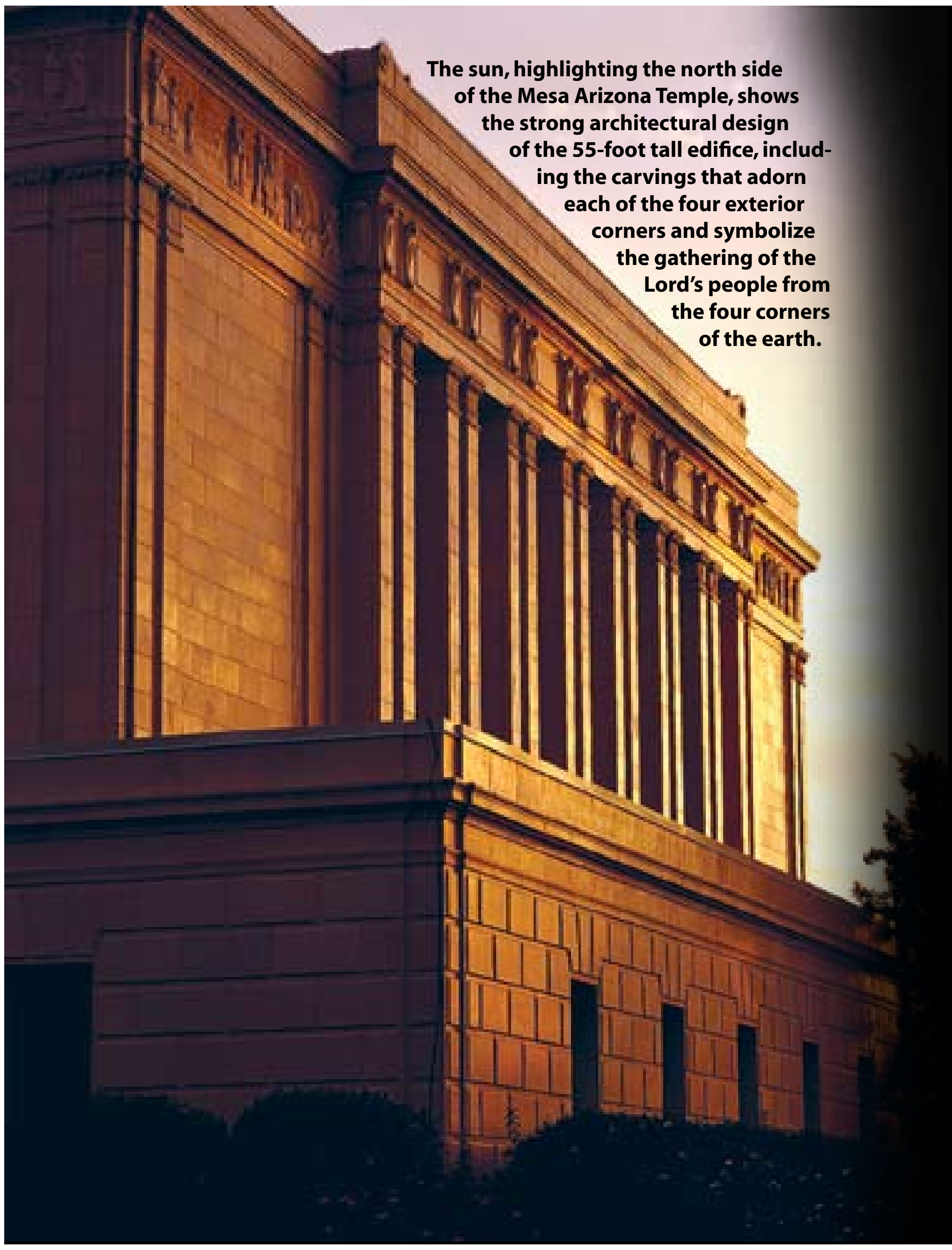

The sun, highlighting the north side of the Mesa Arizona Temple, shows the strong architectural design of the 55-foot tall edifice, including the carvings that adorn each of the four exterior corners and symbolize the gathering of the Lord's people from the four corners of the earth.

Photo by Richard Webb

The Mesa Arizona Temple

Continued from pg. 4

hit 60 home runs for the New York Yankees; and Henry Ford rolled out the 15 millionth Model "T"—that thousands attended the dedicatory sessions and heard President Heber J. Grant's petition in the dedicatory prayer:

"May Thy peace ever abide in this holy building, that all who come here may partake of the spirit of peace and of the sweet and heavenly influence that Thy Saints have experienced in other temples."

"May all who come upon the grounds which surround this temple, whether members of the Church of Christ or not, feel the sweet and peaceful influence of this blessed and hallowed spot."

The idea that the temple and its grounds would be a gathering spot, a place for Latter-day Saints and others to feel peace, is stated even in the temple's design. Carvings at the top of each of the four corners on the exterior walls of the temple represent the gathering of the Lord's people from the four corners of the earth as prophesied by Isaiah.

The Mesa Arizona Temple, the seventh operating temple, was the first within the continental United States to be built outside of Utah. The temple site was selected by visiting Church officials on September 24, 1919, and construction on the 72,000 square foot edifice began in 1922.

One of the few LDS temples without tall spires, the temple stands 55 feet tall, is 128 feet wide and 184 feet long. Located in the center of a 20-acre plot, the temple sits on a foundation that is 12½ feet thick and has exterior walls that are nearly four feet thick. These exterior walls are covered with glazed terra cotta tiles that never need cleaning.

According to F.T. Pomeroy, "It was built…as a veritable rock of ages, almost as perfect as if cleft by the hand of God."

A December 1977 Ensign article described the temple as having "a strongly symmetrical design, the horizontal lines of which (echo). the desert horizon. That design, at least in part symbolized our progress through mortality toward our eternal goal."

Over the years, the temple has served the Saints in Arizona and a number of southern states as far away as Florida, Mexico and Central America. Because of the number of Spanish-speaking patrons, the Mesa Arizona Temple has been referred to as "the Lamanite temple," as it

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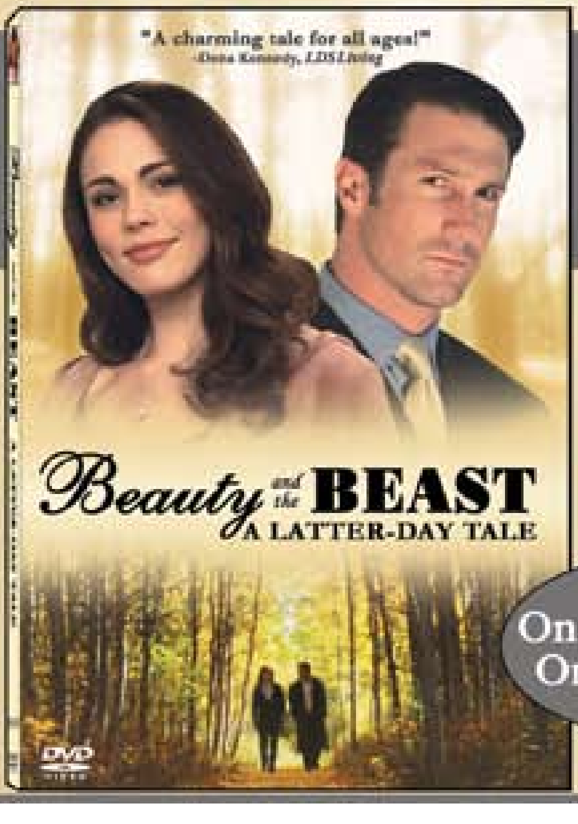
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The Mesa Arizona Temple

Continued from pg. 5

was the destination of annual temple excursions for Hispanic and Native American members of the Church. It became the first temple to present the entire session in a language other than English, when, in 1945, the endowment was presented in Spanish.

The temple was enlarged and remodeled in 1974-75, following which it was opened to the public and then re-dedicated by President Spencer W. Kimball. It was the first time that a temple was opened to the public again before it was re-dedicated. Today the temple has approximately 114,000 square feet.

A public Visitors Center was opened on the temple grounds in 1956 and continues to welcome visitors for free tours, displays and films about Christ and about Church history daily from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Also held on the grounds are two annual events that capture media attention and draw people from around the world.

In 1980, at the request of then Temple President, Harold Wright, volunteers began lighting the temple gardens with thousands of Christmas lights. Today, that tradition continues to attract hundreds of thousands of visitors.

The annual Arizona Easter Pageant, a musical dramatization of the resurrection of Christ, involves nearly 500 actors and assistants and is the largest outdoor Easter pageant in the world.

Today, the Mesa Arizona Temple District is made up of 69 stakes and Ezra Thompson "Tom" Clark, Jr., serves as Temple President, with counselors Charles E. Jones, 71, of Phoenix, and Alvin R. Fulkerson, 61, of Lehi.

President Clark and his wife, Virginia Meldrum Clark, are members of Mesa Central Stake's Enrose Ward. The Clarks have five children and 23 grandchildren.

President Clark says, today, 80 years since the dedication, the emphasis continues to be on gathering people to the temple.

"Our emphasis is to encourage recommend holders to come as often as they can," he says.

To encourage attendance, early sessions have been added on every day of the week, with sessions at 5:30 and again at 6 a.m. on Tuesdays through Fridays. On Saturdays, the earliest session is 6:30 a.m. The temple also will be open on Columbus Day, Monday, October 8 from 7 to 11 a.m. with sessions every 30 minutes.

"We're also trying to reach out to Hispanic members," with Spanish sessions now scheduled for Saturdays at 6 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. and the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m., says President Clark.

He says, "We are also helping the missions, as they really are trying to get new converts to the temple within 30 to 60 days after their baptism to do baptisms for the dead."

"When that occurs, retention rates are much higher," he says.

"Another change is that, other than for stake youth groups, appointments are no longer necessary to do baptisms or initiatory work," says President Clark.

He encourages parents to bring their children (over 12 years of age) to do baptisms for the dead.

"It's a wonderful experience to come as a family," he says.

President Clark sees "another wonderful thing happening" at the temple, which is, "a lot more of the names, in fact most, are patron-submitted family names. We don't very often use extracted names, except for baptisms and initiatory work. More and more, the work is patron-submitted family names."

Beginning in September, the temple will have the equipment in place for reading the new temple recommends with bar codes, which are now being implemented.

"There will be a grace period when both will be accepted, but, at some point, the old recommends won't be accepted anymore," he says.

President Clark says the spirit and blessings available at the temple today are largely due to the "faithfulness of those early pioneer brothers and sisters."

He adds, "It is my hope that we will all attend more often and claim the blessings that have been promised."

Editor's Note: Published specifically for the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the Mesa Arizona Temple and available at local LDS bookstores, **The Ninth Temple: A Light in the Desert** *includes photos, press clippings and well-documented information about the temple's construction and history.*

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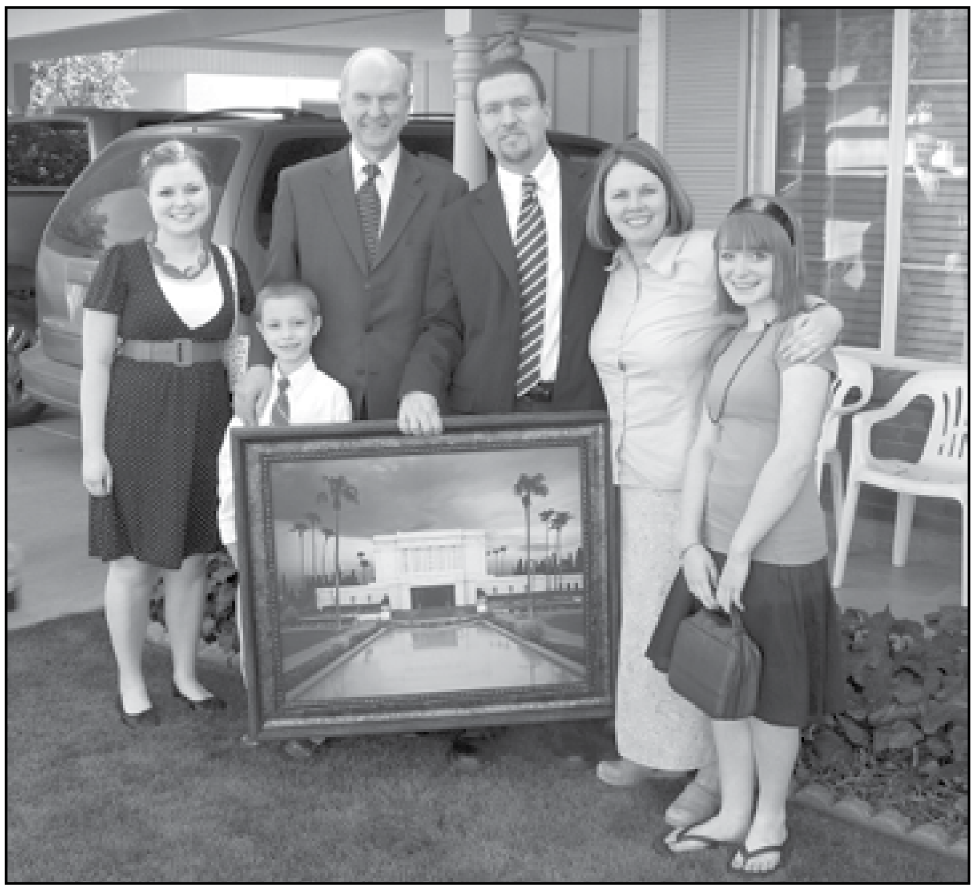

Photo courtesy of Richard Webb

Richard Webb presents a copy of his popular sepia-tone image of the Mesa Arizona Temple to Elder Russell M. Nelson of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles when Elder Nelson visited the Mesa Maricopa Stake conference in March. Shown with Elder Nelson is the Webb family, (left to right) Shelene, Michael, Elder Nelson, Richard and his wife Liesl, and Sheridan.

True to the Primary song, Richard Webb says, "I love to see the temple."

Yet, for Richard, "seeing" the temple takes on a unique connotation, as what he is hoping to see is a unique skyscape, dramatic weather and interesting lighting for his latest photographic composition.

A commercial photographer and member of the Stewart Ward, Mesa Maricopa Stake, Richard and his wife, Liesl, are the parents of four. Richard is recognized for spectacular photographs of landscapes and nature, many of which are published in Arizona Highways magazine.

Yet, his true passion, the results of which are becoming familiar to Latter-day Saints around the world, is photographing temples.

"In photographing temples, I strive to present them as 'art,'" Richard writes on his blog, at http://richardwebbtemples.com/, where he posts pictures and explanations.

Often shooting in late afternoon or early morning, Richard looks for the perfect "atmospherics," or, in other words, the way the clouds and weather are in concert with the lighting.

His interest has become public as, over the past six years, Richard has worked with the Public Affairs committee for the Arizona Easter Pageant and the Temple Gardens Christmas Lights and his photographs have appeared on brochures and on thousands of 6"x9" postcards that are given away at Christmastime when the lights are on.

In addition to many pictures of the Mesa Temple, including the popular sepia-tone image, Brother Webb has photographed the temples in Snowflake, Las Vegas, St. George, Manti, Mt. Timpanogos, Salt Lake, San Diego and Nauvoo.

He says the look and quality of his photos has a great deal to do with the camera he uses.

"It's a large format camera—a

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Photo by Richard Webb

As in this image of the Mesa Arizona Temple, Richard Webb, of the Mesa Maricopa Stake, looks for dramatic weather and interesting compositions to convey the "art" as well as the sacred nature of the temples he photographs.

Photographer Portrays Temple

Continued from pg. 8

big camera, that looks old-fashioned. It's made out of wood and you look through the back of the camera with a hood over your head," he says. The camera produces a high resolution photograph on a 4" x 5" sheet of film.

"It's well suited for architecture," he says. "I can make enormous wall-sized prints and still maintain the detail."

He also has a huge, 11-foot tall tripod.

"With that, I get a different look to images than most people," Richard says. "The view is more expansive, not an aerial, but an elevated view."

In addition to specialized equipment, Richard seems to bring a specialized eye and a particular spirit.

Just as pictures of family events or trips, "can enhance those memories for kids," Richard says he wants the same thing to occur for people when they view photographs he takes of the temples.

"I'm hoping people will look at those representations of that place and be reminded of how they feel about it and what a sacred place it is." He continues, "I feel humbled and honored when people choose [one of my] representations of the temple to have in their home. It means a lot to me that it means a lot to them."

Richard's photographs may be purchased from him directly, or several images are available at the Phoenix-area Deseret Bookstores or in the East Valley at Matage Custom Framing or Décor Unique. For information, e-mail Richard at: richard@richardwebbtemples.com.

Mesa Temple Garden Christmas Lights display begins November 23

As has become tradition, the annual Mesa Temple Garden Christmas Lights display will have its official lighting ceremony on the day after Thanksgiving, on Friday, November 23 at 7 p.m. The gardens will be lit from 5:30 until 10 p.m. each subsequent night through January 1, 2008.

The gardens lighting was started in 1980 at the request of the then Mesa Arizona Temple President, Harold Wright. Since that time, the display, titled *Celebrate the Life of Christ in Lights and Music*, has become one of the largest in the Southwest. The display also features free half-hour concerts at 7 p.m. nightly.

The adjacent Visitors' Center, with a 10-minute film about Christ's birth and an international nativity display is open for free tours from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Mesa Arizona Temple is located at 525 E. Main Street. There no admission fee for the event. Parking is available on surrounding streets. For details and a list of concerts, visit: www.christmastemplelights.com.

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Mom focuses on abstinence education and stresses need for parental awareness

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Though her love and real interest lies in arts education, the thing Mckell Keeney focuses her efforts on these days is speaking out in favor of abstinence education in the Kyrene School District.

PTO President this year for Corona del Sol High School, Mckell is also co-founder and president of the Arts Council for Youth. Yet, she feels her work on the Kyrene Health Committee is most important and sees it as her duty and responsibility.

Photo by Dave Keeney

Mckell Keeney—PTO President at Corona del Sol High School, a member of the Kyrene School District's Health Committee and a proponent of abstinence until marriage education—says parents and other concerned citizens need to be aware of what is being taught in their schools.

Sister Keeney, of the Coronado 2nd Ward, Tempe South Stake, says her youngest is in high school, so, "I don't have anyone in the Kyrene schools anymore, but still have stayed involved. Once I started going to Board meetings and getting to know people, I felt it was important to stay involved."

Her involvement began when she read a newspaper article announcing proposed changes in the health/sex education in the Kyrene district and asking for volunteers to serve on the Health Committee.

Mckell soon got quite an education herself, as she saw the content of some materials and learned about the views being promoted. She says there is a movement to introduce sex education earlier in schools and to include information about birth control and even oral and anal sex.

"I think parents need to know about the movement in public schools pushing for 'comprehensive'/birth control education, even for elementary school districts such as Kyrene," says Mckell.

She says even programs that may seem innocuous on the surface, as they are termed "abstinence based," don't promote abstinence until marriage.

"You have to really look at it to see how liberal it is and what the purpose of the curriculum really is," she says.

"I've also learned a lot about abstinence until marriage education, which Kyrene does not have, from Arizona Partners for Abstinence Education," Mckell explains.

Past president Stan Hovey, of the Tempe Ward, Tempe Stake, who now serves as vice president, says Arizona Partners for Abstinence Education is a nonprofit statewide coalition, which promotes abstinence through classroom education programs, peer mentoring, and positive youth development such as service projects and dances.

He says the group's Web site, azabstinence.com has a great deal of helpful information for educators, parents and concerned citizens.

"My concern," Mckell says, "is that people are sort of unaware about how serious this is. Often, the programs being used are not teaching the same values we, as Latter-day Saints and many others, believe. Some programs go way too far," she says. "Some lessons don't present a very strong abstinence message overall, and a large percentage of the lesson time is spent on HIV/AIDS."

While Arizona law says school districts can't have any sex education until they talk about marriage in a positive way, Mckell explains, the curriculum available often does not support this view.

She recommends parents contact their school's library or curriculum department and "review at least part of the health/sex education lessons and videos used in your schools at some point in the next couple of months."

In addition, she says, "Call you senator or representative to say you do support and want abstinence until marriage education to be funded as before" through both Title V and Community-Based Abstinence Education (CBAE).

For more information, visit: www.azabstinence.com.

Most of all, Mckell and Brother Hovey say parents need to talk with

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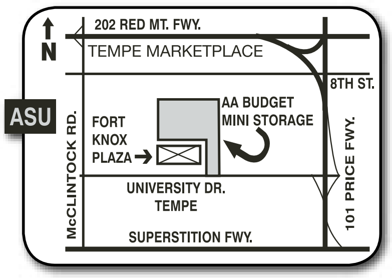

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Photo courtesy of Julie Simm

Four Mesa moms reached their goal to run a marathon together. Shown at the finish line in Salt Lake in April are, left to right, DaLawna Burch, Julie Simm, Julie Thornton and Rachelle Thornton.

MESA MOMS "ON THE RUN" ACCOMPLISH MARATHON GOAL

By Jill B. Adair
The Beehive

While "running" seems to be a part of every mother's life, four mothers from Mesa took it beyond running errands and running children to practices and, instead, set a goal to run a marathon this year.

The moms, all from the Miller Ward, Mesa North Stake, achieved that goal in April.

DaLawna Burch, who has four children, says she and Julie Simm, a mother of three, started running together last year and ran in the Turkey Trot in Mesa on Thanksgiving morning.

Wanting to take it to the next level, they set their sights on a half-marathon in February. However, that race limited the number of participants and, when they weren't among those chosen, they decided to go for a full marathon.

Finding most local events are held on Sundays, they looked out of state and found one in Salt Lake City on Saturday, April 21, 2007.

Two sisters-in-law, Rachelle and Julie Thornton, also had been running together.

"We had been running for years, off and on between babies," says Julie, a mother of four.

Rachelle, who also has four children, including three-year-old twins, started running in college. She says, after her last babies she got into running again and had always wanted to do a marathon.

The four women decided the timing was right and, together, began a serious 16-week training program to prepare for the 26-mile run.

They started out running three or four miles three times a week with a longer run on Saturdays, gradually increasing the distance. The runners went out as early as 4:30 a.m. while children were still asleep and husbands were home before going to work.

"It was a sacrifice," Julie says, "but we had a lot of support from our husbands."

Early into the training, Rachelle had an injury that made her miss two weeks of running and later, because of another injury, missed another three weeks.

With only two weeks before the date, she got back into it and was determined to run.

"I really wanted to do it with my friends," she said. "I didn't want to miss it."

Sister Burch says she was hesitant at first and not sure if she really wanted to do a marathon. Yet, when she learned the race was scheduled on her mom's birthday, she was more than convinced.

Continued on pg. 13

Mom Focuses on Abstinence Ed
Continued from pg. 10

their children.

"Believe it or not, you are the biggest influence for your children in this area," Mckell says.

Brother Hovey agrees.

"Research has shown that parents really have the most influence than anybody else on their child's attitudes and behavior about sex, drug and alcohol. So parents are more important than they think," he says.

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MORMON BATTALION expert donates collection to Bancroft Library

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Photo courtesy of Norma B. Ricketts

Norma Ricketts, 86, author of The Mormon Battalion: U.S. Army of the West, 1846-1848, recently donated her four decades of research to the California Mormon Collection at the Bancroft Library of the University of California at Berkley.

The Bancroft Library at the University of California at Berkeley—one of the most heavily used special collections libraries in the world—now includes 24 boxes of research donated by Arizona native, Norma Baldwin Ricketts.

Sister Ricketts, 86, collected books, notes and journals over the course of several decades and used them in writing *The Mormon Battalion: U.S. Army of the West, 1846-1848,* and several other books about the Mormon pioneers.

Her research now will be part of the Bancroft Library's recently named California Mormon Collection. The Pioneer Heritage Foundation raised the $100,000 necessary to name the collection and to process Norma's donation along with all the Mormon-related books and items already owned by the library.

Born in Holbrook, Arizona, Norma Baldwin Ricketts graduated from Winslow High School in 1938.

Then, she says, "I went to California to college and never can back for 50 years."

Sister Baldwin is a descendant of Caleb Baldwin, who was in Liberty Jail with the prophet Joseph Smith, and of Ralph Ramsay, a woodcarver with the second handcart company, who carved the original eagle for Salt Lake's Eagle Gate Monument.

Yet, she says, it wasn't her heritage, but her job that sparked her interest in pioneer research.

Working for McClatchy Newspapers in Sacramento, Sister Ricketts says, "I became aware that there were Mormons in California long before the pioneers arrived in Utah."

"All you ever heard about were pioneers who went with Brigham Young into the Salt Lake Valley; yet, there were several hundred in California in 1846 and 1847," she explains. "Several had come with the Mormon Battalion and 238 Saints had come on the ship *Brooklyn* from New York and landed in San Francisco in 1845."

Sister Ricketts began her research in 1945 and continued until 1988, when she returned to Arizona. She had gathered 400 books and eight or nine file drawers of journals and biographies.

"I brought all my material and spent six years writing," she says.

The book, published in 1996, became an overnight success when the western division of the Associated Press picked up the story. "Within four days, the publisher had so many requests they had to reprint the book," she says.

It went on to receive three national awards and now, in its fifth printing, continues to be considered the authoritative work on the Mormon Battalion.

"In my book, I made a day-by-day accounting of their service in the Battalion and I brought in stories of what happened along the way," she says, noting that, as she wrote, "I was blessed so many times and would receive unexpected calls or a letter with needed information."

"It made me feel very humble and like Heavenly Father wanted this book to be written," she says.

Sister Ricketts says, a rewarding result of donating her materials to Bancroft is the fact that it has encouraged others to donate.

She says, "As word gets out, they'll have a wonderful collection."

The Mormon Battalion: U.S. Army of the West, 1846-1848 is available on amazon.com and at local LDS bookstores.

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New movie
by Mesa man portrays
Navajo culture and lifestyle

By Jill Adair
The Beehive

When Travis Hamilton served his mission on the Navajo Indian Reservation 10 years ago, he fell in love with the people, their culture and traditions. Also interested in film production, Travis hoped to someday make a movie that would avoid the negative stereotypes of the Navajos and show the true beauty of the people and their land.

His dream was realized this past summer when his movie, “Turquoise Rose,” premiered in Window Rock, the capital of the Navajo Nation.

“It’s been well received,” says Brother Hamilton, of the Miller Ward, Mesa North Stake. “I’m really pleased.”

He says the idea for the story came while he was serving with the National Guard in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He had been attending film school before being called up to active duty. While serving, he befriended a fellow soldier, a Navajo woman, with whom he brainstormed ideas and he started working on the script in his spare time.

The movie is a contemporary, coming-of-age story of a Navajo woman who

Continued on pg. 15

Natasha Kaye Johnson plays Turquoise Rose and Ethel Begay plays her grandmother in the movie, “Turquoise Rose,” which was written, directed and produced by Travis Hamilton of Mesa.

Photo courtesy of Jake Johnson

Mesa Moms On The Run
Continued from pg. 11

Her mother, Loris Crandall-Bath, was shot to death in Mesa by a carjacker in December 2002.

“I thought she’d be my inspiration on that day,” she says.

While DaLawna’s mother wasn’t in the forefront of her thoughts during training, the night before the race, after the four women had arrived in Salt Lake City, she was packing her race pouch and found that her husband had secretly made a button with her mom’s photo. At first, she was overwhelmed with emotion and wondered if she could still do the run.

“At first I was upset,” she says, “but then I was glad to have it; I wore it during the race and would look down at it and think, ‘She’s with me.’”

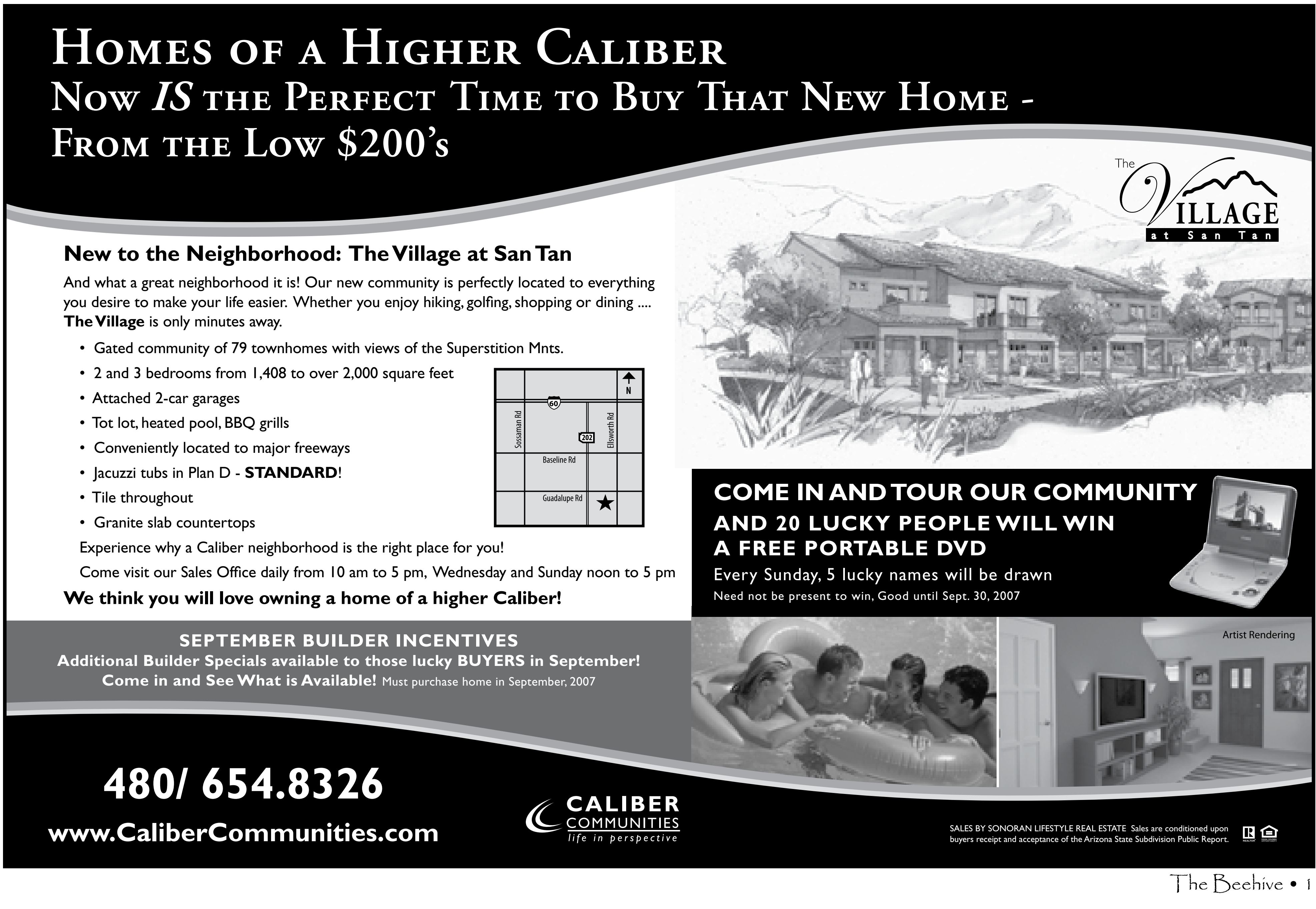
All four women finished the race in under five hours.

Rachelle says overcoming her injuries and ultimately running the marathon has totally changed her outlook on life.

“I feel like, if I can do this, I can do anything,” she says.

Rachelle picked up a saying while in Utah: “When you do what you thought to be impossibility, the possibilities now seem endless.”

“That’s pretty much exactly how I feel,” she says.



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Beads connect WOMEN across continents and cultures

They are simple beads, made out of paper no less. Yet, these beads mean life itself to women in Uganda.

Photo by Cecily Markland

At Bead for Life parties, like the one hosted recently by Donna Tuttle (center), women can purchase beautiful bracelets, anklets and necklaces which, at the same time, will help provide income and independence for the beaders from Uganda.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Opening a box of the colorful, hand-rolled and carefully strung necklaces and bracelets, was a unique experience for one Gilbert woman, creating a sense of connection and sisterhood that reached across continents and cultures.

Donna Tuttle, of the Palo Verde Ward in the Gilbert Stake, first learned about an organization called Bead for Life in a segment on NBC Nightly News a few months ago.

She says her husband, Roy, was intrigued.

"Roy got excited about it. He got on the Web site; we showed our daughter-in-law and she got excited about it," says Sister Tuttle.

The excitement came from learning about a simple way to get involved in what the group's Web site refers to as "eradicating poverty one bead at a time."

Made from magazine pages rolled into round or oblong shapes, the beads are strung together into artistically designed necklaces, anklets and bracelets.

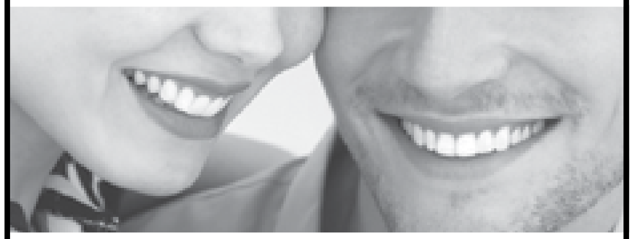
"Each is unique and made with the love and hopes of the beader," the Bead for Life Web site explains.

The beaders, from Northern Uganda, have been displaced from their home villages by a civil war, now in its 18th year. The refuges live in slums and many of them are forced to work in the hot sun at the only job available, crushing rock in a stone quarry by hand to earn a dollar a day.

"The bead project was created to help the beaders of the Acholi Quarter to establish an income-generating cooperative business to sell the beads both in Uganda and North America," the organization reports. "Besides bringing money to the more than 100 beaders directly, all profits go to a development fund that is growing for projects that will create sustainable development."

In addition to civil war, many of the beaders' lives and their families have been devastated by poverty and by HIV/AIDS. The beautiful beads translate into beautiful rewards for the beaders. The money they make means they are can buy food and medicine, pay school fees, and, ultimately, have independence and hope.

Continued on pg. 15



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Beads Connect Women
Continued from pg. 14

To lend support, Donna explains, requires simply hosting a bead party at ones' home, office or at a community event.

"It is so easy. You go on the Web site, type in your name and address and they ship everything to you," she says. "You invite friends over, they can see the beads, purchase them right then, then you ship the money and everything left over back to them."

With the shipment of beads comes recipes for African snack foods and a CD of Aftican music to play at the party, along with a DVD explaining the Bead for Life mission and introducing some of the beaders. Stories about the beaders can also be found on the Web site at www.beadforlife.org.

"The beads are so pretty," Donna says. "It's amazing how beautiful they are. The colors are all really fabulous; and the most expensive item costs $30."

She says several women who attended the bead party at her home bought jewelry for themselves or for gifts.

"We collected $825 for Bead for Life just from that night," she says.

Donna, who is currently serving as the Relief Society President in her ward, says the entire process was easy to do, yet created such a good feeling and a sense of truly doing something worthwhile.

"It was pretty cool," she says.

Hearing about Donna's party, Debbie Poulson, owner of Bella Finé, a downtown Mesa home décor store, felt the idea fit with the store's mission of brightening other's surroundings. The store, at 166 W. Main Street, Suite 102, will host a Bead for Life event Friday, October 12, beginning at 10 a.m., and, that night, in conjunction with Mesa's "Friday Night Out" activities, will remain open until 10 p.m.

To learn more or schedule a Bead for Life party, visit www.beadforlife.org.

New Movie By Mesa Man
Continued from pg. 13

grows up in Phoenix and knows little about life on the reservation. She is faced with a tough choice to continue her dreams or return to the reservation to take care of her ailing grandma. In the process, she comes to understand and appreciate her heritage and falls in love along the way.

The movie was filmed in the summer of 2006 on the eastern side of the Navajo Reservation around Window Rock, as well as in the Valley, including at Heritage Academy in Mesa, where a few of the opening scenes of the movie were shot.

Brother Hamilton, 30, in his directorial debut, said it was important for the movie to be authentic and to have Navajos playing Navajos.

He says, since no one else was doing it, he took it upon himself to show the world that there is talent on the Navajo Reservation.

He was impressed by the acting during auditions and the lack of experience really wasn't a concern for him.

"My feeling is, you cast great people and let them run with it," he says.

As a result, 90 percent of the crew was Navajo and all the Navajo parts are played by Navajos.

Phoenix-area crew members included Donavon and Crystal Barney of Tempe, Alonzo Parra and Jay Coolidge of Phoenix and Mike Fredrickson of Mesa.

The movie introduced Navajo actors Natasha Kaye Johnson, Deshava Apachee, Rhonda Ray, comedian Vincent Craig, and a number of other first-timers to the big screen.

Several cast and crew members are LDS, including co-producer Jake Johnson of Maricopa and Ethel Begay, 74, of Shiprock, who plays the lead's grandmother.

Brother Hamilton hopes his movie helps turn the actors into stars and that, by bringing their talents into the spotlight, future opportunities will open up for them and other Navajos.

Brother Hamilton, who is married with two young children, says his biggest challenge was to find funding for the movie, which cost nearly $1 million.

He says that each day of filming, the cast and crew, regardless of religious beliefs, would gather for prayer. "We knew that we couldn't do it alone," he says.

In the end, he is sure they came away with a better product. "We definitely had help from above," he says.

For more information and upcoming show dates, go to www.turquoiserosethemovie.com.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT

at Mesa Visitors' Center honors

PIONEER TREK

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Copyright Gary B. Peterson, PhotoGeoGraphics 1997/2007.

Gary B. Peterson, whose photographs will be on display at the Mesa Visitors' Center in October, is shown here with the Sesquicentennial Handcart Company commemorating the arrival of the First Handcart Company into the Salt Lake Valley 150 years to the day before, on 26 September 2006. The handcart, one of the most authentic constructed, belongs to the family of Montell Seely of Castle Dale, Utah.

The Mesa Arizona Temple Visitors' Center is well known for its focal point, the marble Christus statue, as well as the permanent displays and films about Christ's mission and the history of the Church.

In addition, particularly in recent years, temporary or seasonal displays continue to welcome visitors and encourage families to visit the center often.

When the exhibit of sculptures by Angela Johnson, titled, "The Healing Power of Christ," closes in September, and before the annual display of international nativities opens around Christmastime, the Visitors' Center will feature a marvelous tribute the pioneers, says Director, Elder David Peterson, who, with his wife, Darelyn, has served in the Visitors' Center since January 2006.

The tribute to the pioneers actually depicts two pioneering efforts, as it honors the original pioneers—70,000 strong, who traveled 1,300 miles to the Salt Lake Valley—but it does so in photographs that honor a second trek, the sesquicentennial pioneer trek staged in 1997.

The powerful photographic essay is by Elder Peterson's brother, Gary B. Peterson, a commercial photographer and historical geographer, from Mapleton, Utah.

Continued on pg. 17

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Photographic Exhibit
Continued from pg. 16

The 80-print exhibit, titled “A Landmark Journey: Photographs of the Sesquicentennial Wagon Train on the Mormon Pioneer Trail” portrays the service and sacrifice required and the “way the hand of the Lord moved over this experience,” Gary says.

Though he could not participate in the entire commemorative trek, Gary says, “I determined that I needed to do something.”

He met up with the trek around Devil’s Gate, Wyoming, and says, “I followed the wagon train most of the way as it moved toward Salt Lake,” noting that as he photographed the wagon train and learned many of the stories of the participants, “I couldn’t help but imagine what it was like for my ancestors,” some who were among the first handcart company in 1856 and others who had come across the plains by wagon train in 1852.

“I got very emotionally involved and I could not quit watching, and seeing images of 1847 before my 1997 eyes,” he says.

As thousands of modern-day Saints traveled, “There was a tremendous logistics problem, to have enough food and water, and water and feed for the animals, as well as permissions to cross private and government land,” along the way, Brother Peterson says.

He adds, “It was the largest media event that ever took place in the Church.”

Yet, even more than that, the reenactment was a testimony-building experience for those who participated and for many who witnessed the trek.

“I was mesmerized by the scene that passed through, traveling on the real trail my ancestors had passed on some 150 years before,” says Brother Peterson, adding that his photographs depict, “how amazing the reenactment was as this wagon train took on a life of its own.”

Still, there were times that were challenging for Brother Peterson as well.

“I occasionally had second thoughts as I was losing time from work and from family and ward obligations and had to commute back and forth,” he says.

Yet, after it was over, as Brother Peterson looked at the 1,000 negatives of photograph’s he’d taken, he realized, “There’s a story here. I pulled the most telling 80 or so of those images together,” to make an exhibit which has since hung at Utah State University, Southern Utah University, the Museum of the San Rafael, The Central Utah Art Center in Ephraim, and other places in Utah.

“It has been very rewarding to see how it has touched people’s hearts and helped them think—and feel differently—about the epic trek and their relationship to it,” Brother Peterson says.

The exhibit will open at the Mesa Visitors’ Center October 3, with a special presentation that evening by Gary Peterson, and will remain at the center until October 30. As with all the displays and films at the Visitors’ Center, the exhibit is free of charge and can be viewed daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Organization collects new and used socks for children in need

By Anna Arnett
The Beehive

While helping at a food line, Caryn Shoemaker noticed a small, barefoot boy placing one foot over the other, trying to warm his toes in the chilly January weather. She ran to find socks and, as she tells it, the resulting smile on his face reminded her of how important feet were in Jesus’ ministry.

She contacted a few friends, and that was the beginning of the organization called One Small Step. Today, almost six years later, the group has given out more than 100,000 pairs of socks—and thousands of other items, particularly underwear and blankets—that have been donated along the way. Socks go to Mexico and the Philippines, but many are given to Arizona children in need.

The organization accepts socks of all kinds and sizes—new, used, or even slightly soiled. Socks with holes are mended, or go into the rag pile if they are too badly damaged. Used socks are sanitized, matched as closely as possible into pairs, then put in bundles of four pair of the same size, with at least one of those a new pair, if possible.

Socks can be dropped off or sent to 1131 S. Paradise Drive, Gilbert, 85233. To learn more about the One Small Step, visit www.onegoodsock.org or e-mail Caryn at carynshoe@hotmail.com.

Latter-Day Night Fever Returns to Arizona in October

Latter-Day Night Fever, a professional stand-up comedy show—featuring comedians Thomas Bond, Lamar Newmeyer and John Moyer, writer and inspiration for the movie, *The Singles Ward*—returns to Arizona in October.

Latter-Day Night Fever will be presented at 10 p.m. Friday, October 26, and two shows on Saturday, October 27, at 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., at Theater 168 (home of the Jester’z) in Scottsdale in the Papago Plaza at 7117 E. McDowell Road (southwest corner of McDowell and Scottsdale roads).

Tickets for the show are $15. For more information, visit www.theater168.com. To make reservations, call (480) 423-0120.

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Swing Kids
in Mesa share talents & testimonies

By Stephanie Abney
The Beehive

Photos by Amber Farnsworth

The non-profit show choir/swing dance group called "City Lights," includes (left to right) top row: Emily Klienkoph, Caleb Allred, Jacquie Hancock, Lynzi Richardson; middle row: Tyler Arnerr, Director Paula Olson, Nate Free; and bottom row: Kelsie Rhoton, Bryson Malais, and Michelle Olson.

Paula Olson grew up singing and dancing. In fact, as a young girl, her mother often told her, "You must have danced in heaven."

When she married her husband, Tracy, Sister Olson thought she would set dance aside to be a full-time wife and mother. Yet, Tracy loved music as much as she did, and soon their home was filled with dance as Paula organized classes for her children and their friends.

Those classes have never stopped.

Today, though five of their seven children are now married, Paula, a member of the Greenfield Ward, Mesa Mountain View Stake, continues to find opportunities for her own children and others to dance.

Photos by Amber Farnsworth

Dancers with the City Lights (left to right) Tyler Arnett, Emily Klienkoph, Nate Free, Lynzi Richardson, Bryson Malais, and Michelle Olson practice numbers they share at church and community events across the Valley.

Paula says, "Throughout my children's teen years, the show choir/dance groups I've taught have become among the most rewarding experiences we have shared. The friendships they have developed are priceless. Singing, dancing and performing has become a great confidence builder along with creating an atmosphere where wonderful memories and friendships have been built."

Currently, Sister Olson directs a non-profit show choir/swing dance group called "City Lights," made up of 56 LDS youth, ages 12 and up, who she says are "dynamic, positive, and uplifting." City Lights provides opportunities for teens to develop talents, experience teamwork, cultivate friendships, make memories and create positive self-worth in a wholesome and uplifting atmosphere."

The dance troupe rehearses at the Mesa Women's Club and the participants all chip in to cover the rent on the building. Sister Olson, who donates her time to teach the group, hopes to help them understand that "show content, dance moves, music, lyrics and costuming can be entertaining, wholesome, uplifting and modest."

Sister Olson is joined by fellow dance teachers and members of the Mesa Mountain View Stake: Caroline Kleinkopf of the Adobe Ward; Michelle Olson (Paula's daughter) of the Greenfield Ward; and

Continued on pg. 19

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Swing Kids

Continued from pg. 18

Bryson Malais, a high school senior who also resides in the Greenfield Ward. Vocal instructor, Lori Woods of the Riverview Ward, Maricopa North Stake, also assists the group.

City Lights performs “Jump, Jive and Sing,” an energetic song and dance show that includes swing dance, hip hop, jazz, clogging, and tap. Songs range from Broadway show hits, patriotic music, Gershwin selections, blasts from the past and popular music of today.

The group also presents a fireside, called “Sing for You, America,” which includes music, scripture and words of the prophets and Church leaders. The program is designed to instill a message of appreciation for the freedoms and blessings of the United States, emphasizing the Lord’s hand in establishing the Constitution.

“The fireside also stresses the responsibility to fulfill our missions in preparing for the second coming of Christ,” Paula explains.

City Lights was invited to perform for Mesa’s 2007 Constitution Week Celebration held in the Mesa Amphitheater September 17. Each dancer in the group will earn “service learning hours” toward their high school graduation requirements, for every hour spent in planning, learning and performing at this event.

Emily and Kate Kleinkopf, of the Adobe Ward, say they are having a “blast” performing with City Lights.

Sister Olson loves the experience as well.

“The greatest reward has been to help instill a respect in the performers for the freedoms we enjoy today and a desire to do their part in spreading the gospel,” she says.

The group will perform at the Arizona State Fair in October and at Disneyland in January.

City Lights is available to perform “Jump, Jive and Swing,” or “Sing for You, America,” for Young Men/Young Women activity nights, businesses, schools, family gatherings or any church or community events throughout the Valley. Contact Paula Olson at 480-649-5057 for scheduling.

The Michael Drysdale Hope Project seeks additional volunteers

Songwriter, Mike Drysdale, says he is much closer to realizing his goal, thanks to a July 2007 article in The Beehive newspaper,

That article described the 1992 accident and the injuries Mike sustained, as well as his 15-year battle to first walk again and then to continue to recover so he can hold down a job and support his family.

The Michael Drysdale Hope Project, with an ultimate goal of completing a CD with Mike’s songs, was created to assist Mike and fund the final stages of his recovery.

Since The Beehive article in July, the response has been phenomenal, with several individuals stepping forward to contribute time and talents toward this project. Mike and Linda Hartmann, who is helping facilitate the effort says they have had several musicians and composers step forward. They are still in need of a drummer, music typesetters, recording and sound engineers and three more composers who would like to set one of Mike’s songs to music.

Of course, says Linda, “other musicians, singers—anyone who wants to help facilitate getting this CD out would be welcomed and appreciated.” To volunteer talents and resources, call Linda 480-844-9328 or Mike at 602-369-7807.

Single Adult Conference planned for November

The fall Phoenix Area Single Adult Conference, with the theme, “Stand on the Lord’s Side,” has been scheduled for November 1 through 4, 2007. The conference offers a variety of activities for LDS singles, ages 30 and up. To participate, all divorces must be final.

Details about the conference are available, and will be updated regularly, on http://www.phxldss-ingleadults.info or on the Singles Hotline: 866-311-6131.

BYU Ballroom Dance Company to perform in AZ

Brigham Young University Ballroom Dance Company will be perform in Arizona in October.

BYU has the largest collegiate dance program in the world and the company is known for the unique dance styles and chic costumes that are part of every performance.

The Ballroom Dance Company will perform at Red Mountain High School in Mesa on Friday, October 19 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $12 for general seating and can be purchased at any of the Phoenix area Deseret Bookstores.

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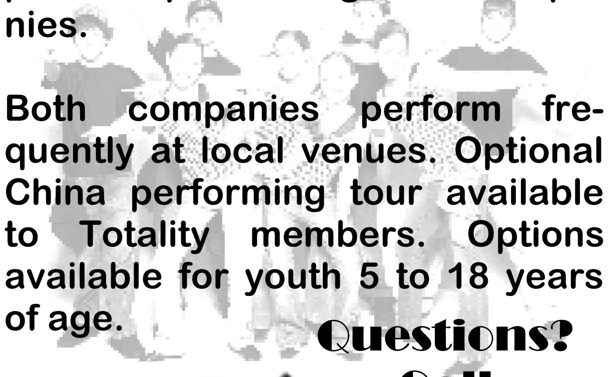

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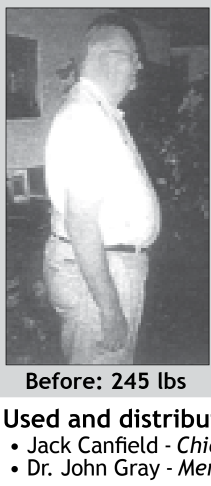

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Community helps turn *tragedy* into *benefit*

By Tina Scott
The Beehive

In the 15 years she lived, Stephanie Udall excelled, far exceeding others' expectations. Now, her family and friends want a music scholarship established in her name to have a similar impact in others' lives.

Even as a toddler, Stephanie enjoyed music, reaching up to play the piano and singing along.

"She'd sit with a Primary children's songbook in her lap when she was just two and sing each song," says Stephanie's mother, Kristie Udall. "If she didn't know it, she'd make up a tune and clap for herself."

As a teenager, Stephanie excelled in music, school, and church.

"She started accompanying the ward choir when she was 12," Kristie says, "and she started teaching piano her freshman year."

Stephanie sang with Thatcher High School's choir, as well as a girl's quartet. She served as the sophomore class secretary and belonged to the Pep Club, Spanish Club and Interact Club, a group that provides community service—and she still got good grades.

"She studied real hard," says Sister Udall, "but she never did homework on Sunday; ever."

Stephanie demonstrated her testimony in the way she lived and, in her journal, she wrote: "Reading the Book of Mormon has helped confirm to me that the church of Jesus Christ is real. I have come closer to Heavenly Father, and I know if I pray sincerely, with a pure heart, really willing to listen in faith, then He will answer me. And if not, He will send the Holy Spirit to be with me and let me know everything will be okay."

Halfway through her sophomore year, Stephanie was involved in an ATV accident and died from her injuries. Her parents, David and Kristie Udall of the Thatcher 6th Ward, Thatcher Stake, say, to get through the tragedy, they relied on strength they derived from prayers offered in their behalf.

Also, "A big amount of peace came because she was a good girl," says Kristie. "She was worthy of going to the temple in every way."

Photo provided by David and Kristie Udall

Stephanie Udall who lived life to the fullest, is remembered with a benefit event and a music scholarship fund in her name.

Her parents have faith that, "someday we'll understand, maybe, why it was better this way, even though it's hard, and isn't what we would choose," says Kristie.

David and Kristie agree that even small things—a kind word, a smile, a hug, empathy from others who had lost children, and meals that were brought in—have helped.

They also were touched when their friends, Kimball and Jan Hansen, suggested a project that would help others remember Stephanie.

"[Stephanie] was an incredibly talented person, and my husband and I were looking forward to watching her grow up, and somehow it just got into my head there should be a scholarship in her name, and that would be one way to perpetuate her memory," explains Jan.

The Udalls approved and the high school principal and other staff took it from there, setting up the scholarship legally and making plans for a benefit program.

David explains, "They talked to Mary Christensen, Stephanie's high school music teacher, who helped coordinate a variety-type benefit where Stephanie's classmates, community members, and friends from Mesa were able to participate," in an event that included a silent auction, musical presentations and comic and dance acts.

"It was really neat and we were just amazed by how many people came; how many people were generous," says Kristie.

Jan also worked with the Eastern Arizona Music Teacher's Association, who held a benefit piano recital. Proceeds from both events were used to establish an endowed scholarship, and interest will go to help music students from Thatcher High School who will be attending Eastern Arizona College.

Those who knew Stephanie hope it will continue to grow.

"Mary Christensen would like [the benefit programs] to go on for a number of years," says David. "With another show or two, we could very well get enough for a full year's tuition."

Editor's Note: Individuals wishing to donate, may send checks payable to the Stephanie Ann Udall Memorial Music Scholarship to 3697 W. Church St., Thatcher AZ 85552.

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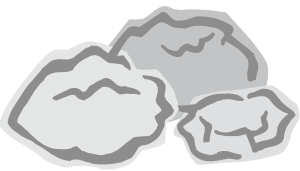

"Darling Rocks" become a monument to a faithful woman

By Jill Adair
The Beehive

This year, as the Mesa Pueblo Stake held Young Women camp at Camp LoMia near Payson for the 10th year, young women and stake leaders also paid tribute to one woman's contribution and the legacy she left behind.

Sharon Clouse, who passed away from cancer in 1999, served as stake Young Women president, stake camp director and nearly 25 years in the Young Women program—always loving the girls and always putting them first.

Those who knew her best say she was a woman who had a testimony of camp and would do anything to get a girl there.

"She knew how powerful it was to get into nature and that girls' camp could change lives and build testimonies," says her friend, Elaine Stradling.

Another friend, Donna Flake, says Sister Clouse "inspired all around her to do better because she found beauty in everything."

Sister Clouse was a Young Women camp mentor to Alayne Favreau, who served on the stake camp staff this year and planned the tribute.

Alayne recalls the first year her stake planned to Camp LoMia. She says some of the leaders hiked the trails to become familiar with them. When, on the trail to Deep Pools, the group came upon a pile of rocks cascading down the side of a hill, Sister Clouse said, "Look at those rocks; aren't they darling?"

The name, "darling rocks" stuck.

Shortly before Sister Clouse passed away, her friends showed her the sign they had made to post at the rocks.

We told her, "We're going to remember you always," says Sister Stradling.

The original wooden sign had fallen over many times, was rotting and needed replacing. "We felt it was time to do something nicer," says Sister Favreau.

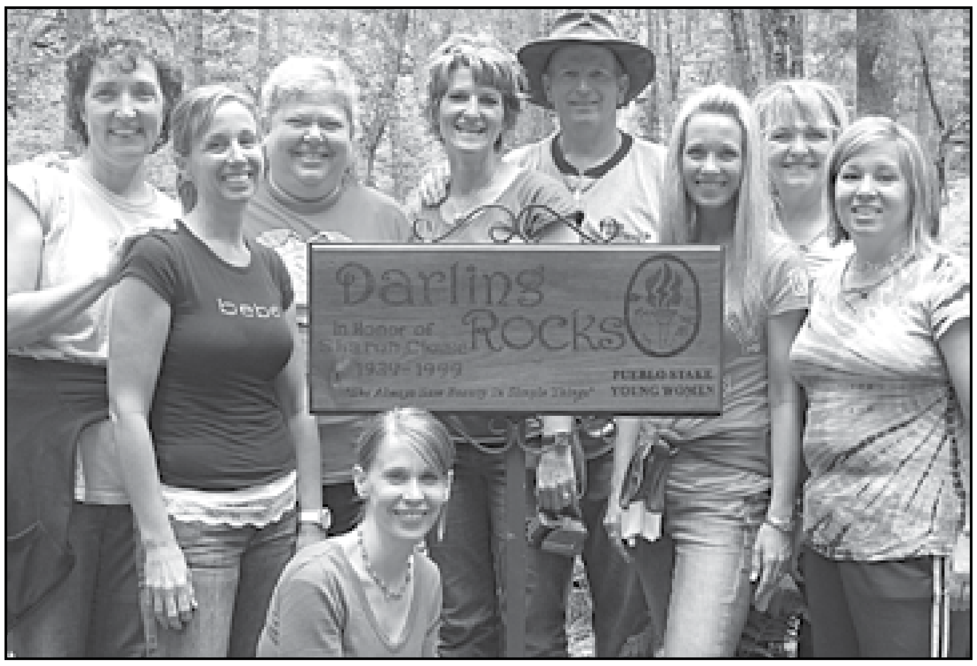

Photo courtesy of Carla Plouzek

Friends and family gathered at Mesa Pueblo Stake's Young Women camp to honor Sharon Clouse as a woman who loved and served young women. In front is Carla Plouzek. In back, from left, are Alayne Favreau; Terry Thomas, Elaine Stradling, Shelle and Russell Clouse, Kathy Smith, Donna Flake and Susan Wadsworth.

Family members, including Sister Clouse's four daughters, Terry Thomas, Kathy Smith, Susan Wadsworth and Carla Plouzek; and son, Russ and his wife, Shelle, joined the first and second level campers and camp leaders for a "Darling Rocks" moment on Aug. 1.

"There were three things we hoped to get across to the girls," says Sister Favreau. "One, Sister Clouse was a woman who had a testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ; second, she gave selfless service and third, she found beauty in simple things, even rocks were 'darling.'"

The girls were encouraged to remember Sister Clouse's legacy and to re-tell her story so her influence will continue, even among those who didn't know her.

"The spirit was there," says Doreen Stradling, stake Young Women president. "I think the girls were touched."

With permission of the Forest Service, the sign was cemented into the ground and the name, "Darling Rocks," will be on hiking maps in the future.

"Her legacy is living on without her even planning it," says her daughter, Carla. "It was just because of who she was; now we have a sacred spot dedicated to our mom."

"If she were here she wouldn't be able to say much," Carla adds. "She'd just cry and say, 'That's darling.'"

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Mesa couple spends 2½ years speaking in support of the family

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Photo courtesy of Cecil and Linda Ash

Cecil Ash—who, with his wife, Linda, served as volunteer ambassadors for the family for two and a half years—tours the UN with Craig A. Cardon, now of the Quorum of the Seventy.

Leaving their home behind, one Mesa couple moved to the other side of the continent and spent the past two and a half years in New York, serving as volunteers at the United Nations, where they hoped their views and commitments would have an international affect.

For Cecil and Linda Ash, of the Emerald Acres Ward, Mesa South Stake, the volunteer assignment actually began in 2001, which was when they got involved with an organization called United Families International. The Ashes fully supported the mission of UFI, a 501c3 public charity devoted to maintaining and strengthening the family as the fundamental unit of society. UFI is dedicated to promoting pro-family public policies at the local national and international levels, including at the United Nations.

UFI's focus on the family, on marriage between a man and a woman, on the sanctity of life and on the rights of parents rang true to Cecil and Linda.

So, in 2004, when UFI sent out a form asking for donations of time or money, the Ashes were happy to contribute both.

"We had just sold our business in the spring of 2004," Cecil explains. "We had considered going on a mission, but had a son out on a mission and another son, the last of our five children, just leaving. It wasn't the right time for us."

What did seem to fit with the timing and their situation was the opportunity extended to represent UFI as ambassadors for the family at the UN for six months.

They agreed and moved to New York in January 2005.

The intent was that the Ashes would work with other pro-family groups to educate, inform and advise the UN delegates and, ultimately, affect policies that would favor and protect strong, traditional family values.

The Ashes soon saw the importance of what they'd been asked to do.

Cecil says he recalls thinking, "I've lived in Arizona all my adult life, tried to be a good citizen and raise my kids to be good, responsible citizens and members of the Church, and, all the while I've been doing that, the 'secular progressive movement' was rapidly being pushed forward."

He says "secular progressive" refers to a liberal movement that "advocates abortion, homosexuals as a protected class and sex education for the very young. The gay lifestyle is something that is encouraged and abortion and condoms are viewed as the answer to most of the world's problems," he says.

"The degree to which the secular progressive agenda has entrenched itself into the UN is frightening," Cecil adds.

"At the UN there is quite a learning curve to understand the history of the documents and agreements and to know how the UN works," Cecil says. For example, he explains, a document may refer to "reproductive health ser-

Continued on pg. 23

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Mesa Couple Spends 2½ Years
Continued from pg. 22

Photo courtesy of Cecil and Linda Ash

Cecil and Linda Ash, of Mesa, shown here at a Beckett Fund Dinner in New York, spent two and a half years as ambassadors for the family, representing United Families International at the United Nations.

vices," which, "interpreted, is the way the UN bureaucracy refers to abortion."

Seeing the magnitude of the challenge at the UN, as their six-month commitment neared completion, the Ashes felt they were just beginning to scratch the surface. So, when the stake president asked them to stay in New York, they agreed.

"The stake president said, 'Mesa Arizona doesn't need you. We need you in New York.' He told us, 'If you would commit to say here for two years, we could use you,'" Cecil explains.

After two and a half years, the Ashes returned to Mesa in June, where they continue to be a strong voice for the family and encourage others to do the same.

"We as Latter-day Saints need to be aware, first of all," says Linda. "Then, we need to let our voices be heard in editorials, call-ins to talk shows, letters to our representatives."

"We need to stand up for what we believe in, our rights, and what we hold dear, or soon they're going to be taken away from us," Linda says. "We have got to stand up and fight it."

Editor's Note: To learn more about United Families International, visit www.unitedfamilies.org.

Hospice company seeks volunteers for various assignments

Sojourn Care, a hospice company, has many opportunities for volunteers who want to become involved in contributing to the lives of individuals who have been diagnosed with an illness that medical science can not cure.

Volunteer opportunities include providing companionship care—meaning being a friend, playing games or watching TV with patients in a private home, assisted living facility or nursing home.

Caregiver relief can occur in a patient's private home and means sitting with a patient while their caregiver "takes a break" or runs errands.

At the Sojourn Care office, volunteers are needed to help with administrative duties, mailings, general filing and assembling packets.

Individuals of any age are needed to participate in special projects such as singing, playing an instrument, making crafts, running errands, doing laundry, or performing light housekeeping duties.

Volunteers may participate in one-time or short-term assignments or, for those whose schedules allow, on-going assignments are available. Volunteers must complete an application and various screenings and must attend an orientation, which ensures volunteers feel prepared. Orientations may be scheduled as needed and service opportunities are available at various locations across the Valley.

For information about the company in general, visit sojourncare.com. To inquire about volunteer opportunities, contact Robert Decker at rdecker@sojourncare.com or by calling (480) 315-1525.

San Luis Valley Saints plan reunion

Anyone born in the San Luis Valley of Southern Colorado is invited to attend a reunion and get-together on Saturday, October 13. The event will begin at 5 p.m. at the LDS meetinghouse on 48th Street and Southern, in Mesa.

"The event is nothing fancy, just a time to talk about our roots," says Steve Rogers, event organizer. "We will have a microphone, so you can introduce yourself and tell a little bit of your history.

Attendees are invited to bring a casserole or dish to share; everything else will be provided.

To RSVP, please contact Steve Rogers at 602-295-6513 before October 10.

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ARIZONA MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

offers opportunities for LDS professionals

Photo by Cecily Markland

This year's Arizona Management Society Board, including (back row, left to right) Chad Heywood, Eric Pyles, Bob Lindquist, Rich Wilson, Sean Hales, Brian Walker, Gary Fleming (past president), Ryan Ferguson (front row, left to right) Mike Heywood, Claudia Walters, Sterling Baer (president) and Kyle Thornton (president-elect) will focus on providing society members with additional leadership tools and enhanced networking opportunities.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Leadership development, career advancement, service and professional networking—on-going goals of the Arizona Management Society, will be even more accessible in the months ahead.

As the organization resumes after its summer hiatus, past president, Gary Fleming, will turn the leadership responsibilities to the new AMS president, Sterling Baer, and president-elect, Kyle Thornton, joined by several returning Board Members along with newcomers as well.

"I'm pretty excited about all the things happening right now," says Sterling, who is a member of the Thayer Park Ward, Mesa Mountain View Stake.

An educational and networking association, the Arizona Management Society has been in the Valley for more than 10 years and is comprised primarily of LDS professionals, managers, business owners and entrepreneurs. An affiliate of BYU's Marriott School of Management, the organization interfaces with Mesa Community College and with Arizona State University's William B. Carey School of Business and is open to students and graduates from any university.

Brother Baer, IBM's Latin American Service Executive, responsible for all IBM Maintenance for South America, has been with the Management Society since 1983. He has served on the Board since 1991, including two years as President. Sterling also has served with his wife, Michele, as Arizona's Chapter President of BYU Alumni.

He says, looking to the year ahead,

Continued on pg. 25

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Arizona Management Society
Continued from pg. 24

the biggest change in the Management Society will be in the opportunities and processes for networking.

"There will big change in the way we network," Brother Baer says.

Sterling says, "We've hooked back up with BYU's network and have migrated our membership to their database," which means a more user-friendly system for registration, dues and luncheon reservations.

In addition to accessing the advantages associated with the BYU's site, AMS will offer "broader scope and opportunity for networking," through an international database known as LinkedIn and will also revamp the Arizona Management Society Web site, "making it more functional and more robust, attractive, and easier to maneuver."

Photo by Cecily Markland

President, Sterling Baer (left) and president-elect, Kyle Thornton, encourage LDS professionals to participate in the many networking and career development opportunities offered through the Arizona Management Society.

"We are also looking at a communication model based on the interests of the group and their specializations," says Brother Thornton, a member of the Crosspoint Ward, Mesa Mountain View Stake.

He adds that enhanced emphasis on networking will allow for greater participation.

"Those who can't attend an event or monthly lunch meetings can still be involved and included," Kyle says.

With that networking emphasis, the society intends to look for ways to increase its membership, including encouraging and promoting more participation from women.

According to Brother Baer, the organization also will stress service, giving members an opportunity to become involved with developing business in underdeveloped areas of the world, through BYU's microloan program.

"We will continue and revamp the ASU liaisons, to strengthen the joint relationship between ASU Institute and the ASU William B. Carey Business School," Sterling says. "These students will be invited to join our networking group, come to our lunches at discounted rates and apply for our scholarships."

Meetings, held the third Thursday of each month, will focus on the overall goal of Management Society, "which is to develop and foster moral and ethical leadership in the business community," says Sterling. "By inviting quality speakers with a broad perspective—successful business leaders who share successes—we help translate those successes to those people who come."

Brother Thornton, who graduated from ASU with an engineering degree and an MBA, says he is excited about the future of the Arizona Management Society.

"It's exciting to see more people coming in, more people getting involved and wanting to contribute," he says.

To learn more about the Arizona Management Society, visit www.azmgt.com. Or, to contact Sterling, e-mail sabaer@us.ibm.com or call 480-641-0755.

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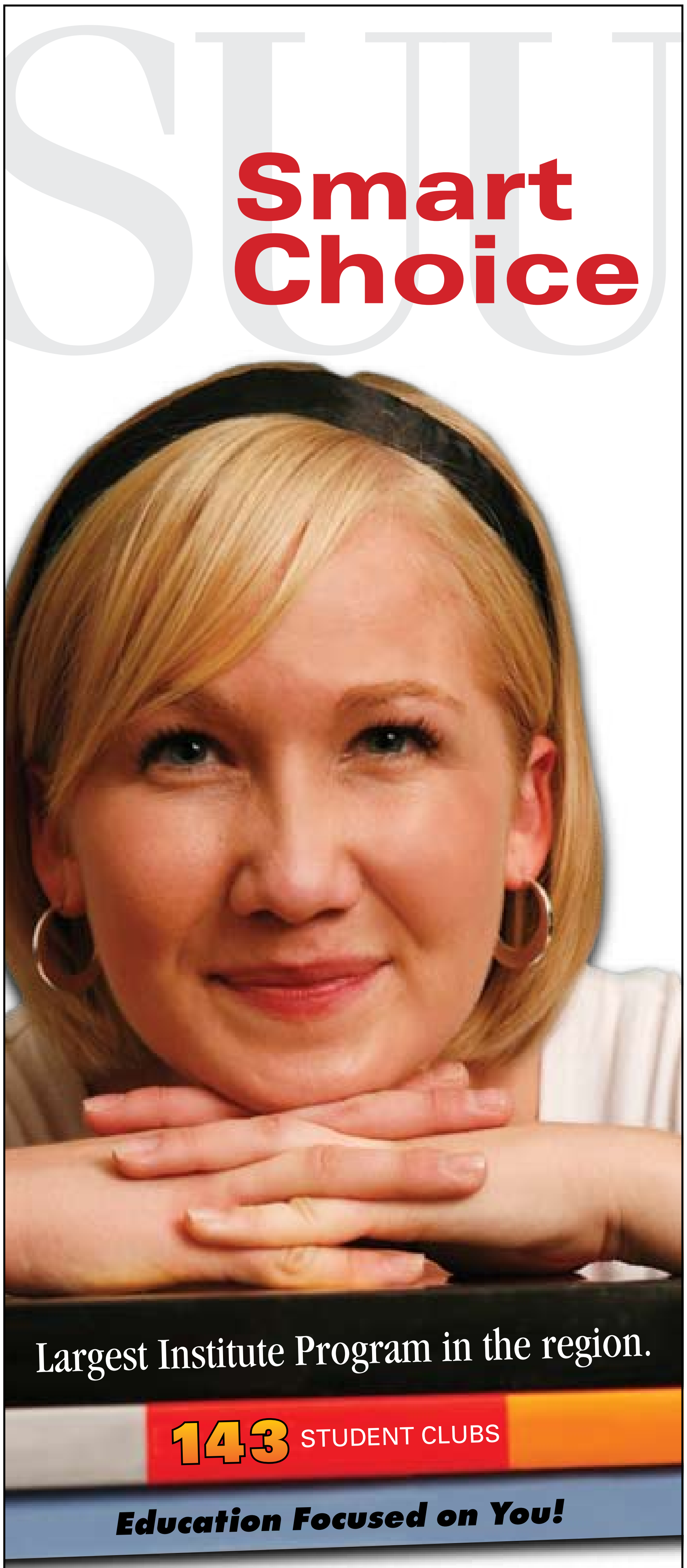
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ARIZONA 2007

YOUNG MOTHER OF THE YEAR

lauding the magic of motherhood

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Photo by Julie Bigler

Michelle Bigler (center), Arizona's 2007 Young Mother of the Year, enjoys being surrounded by her family: (clockwise from top left) Tyler, Spencer, husband John, Rebecca, Andrew and Jilline.

Michelle Bigler, Arizona's 2007 Young Mother of the Year, says she never aspired to that title.

In fact, she laughs, she had a pet phrase she occasionally muttered to herself over the past 10 years or so, when her role as a mother seemed to be the busiest: "I'm not trying to be Mother of the Year, I'm too busy being mother of my own home."

Yet, what Michelle Bigler loves most about the award is the opportunity it has given her to encourage other mothers and to speak out in support of what she says is the greatest job of all.

Born in Arlington, Texas, Michelle grew up as the only girl in a family of seven. She graduated from Gilbert High School, and after living in five different states, she again resides in Gilbert, where she is a member of the Coronado Second Ward in the San Tan Stake.

Michelle enjoys interior design, sewing and teaching. She is a certified cardio kick-box instructor and a licensed Arizona realtor.

Yet, she says: "My greatest credentials in life are my five fabulous children, ranging from toddler to teenager; that, along with being dedicated to staying home and raising those children through 10 years of struggling through dental school with my best friend and husband, John."

She encourages other mothers to consider their credentials and, even, to compose a resume.

"Make your own resume, a mother resume," she says. "You'll be amazed at how much you do have and have done."

She says mothers have a tendency to compare themselves to others.

"Comparing seems to be what gets women down," she says. "If

Continued on pg. 27

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Young Mother of the Year

Continued from pg. 26

we will learn to let it go—there is so much we can let go—and, instead realize the divine calling of mothers.”

“The world tries to constantly hide that, and we have to bring it back into focus,” Michelle adds.

Michelle has found some things that enrich her life and help her stay grounded.

“I read self-help books in the pick up lane at school. I listen to talk-tapes while running errands. Or I engage in a great phone discussion while doing my housework,” she says.

In addition, “I also seek good examples,” Michelle says. “This world is filled with a vast array of people, each perfecting their own unique talents. I watch for the fortes of others, and glean from them.”

> "My most important function is unconditional and true love..."

Michelle says service also enriches her life. She has volunteered at her children’s schools and in the community and has served in many capacities in the Church. Yet, Michelle says, she always emerges the winner.

“Every time I give of my talents, I end up the receiver, increasing my own talents and enriching my own life making me a better wife and mother,” she says.

During the Young Mother of the Year selection process, Michelle found one question was her favorite.

“The question, ‘What is your most important function?’ made me think so much, that I have incorporated it into many of my talks,” Michelle says. When speaking to women, she encourages them to prayerfully determine their own answer to the question.

“I give each woman a list pad with the directions to write their most important function at the top of the list—before they make their task list. They are to do this each day until the pad is gone; and, at the end of the day, they should check, not to see if their list was done, but, instead, to make sure their most important function was accomplished.”

For herself, Michelle says, “My most important function is unconditional and true love, sacrificing my own selfish motives and needs to focus on my family’s.”

Aware mothering can bring extreme challenges and concerns, Michelle says it’s during those difficult times, “that you dig even deeper to find your magic of faith and hope. You teach, you love, you guide, and you believe in that child, even when they don’t believe in themselves.”

“A mother’s faith is the greatest magic on earth,” she says. “Spread that magic to your child, to your home, to your neighborhood, and your friends. And through this magic, let us touch the world.”

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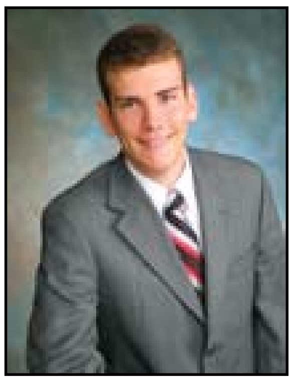

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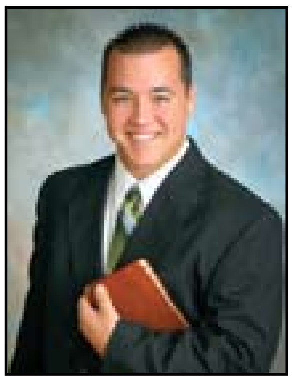

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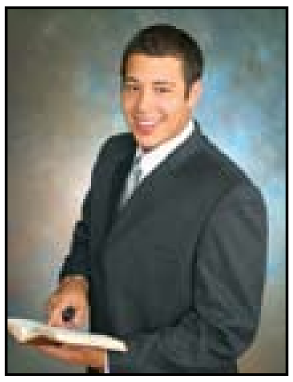

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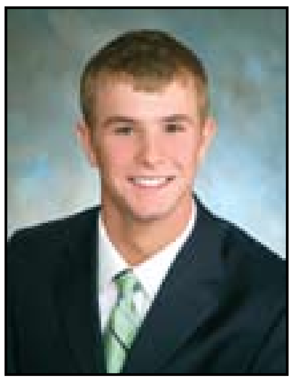

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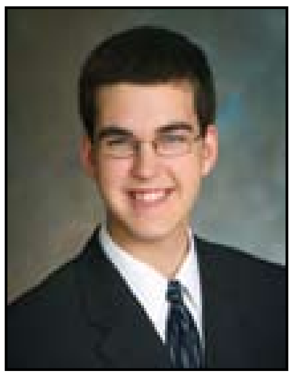

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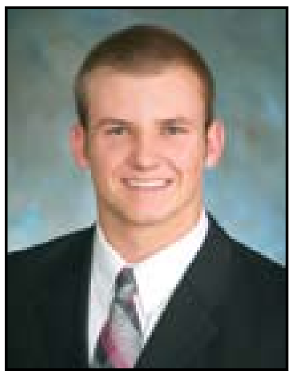

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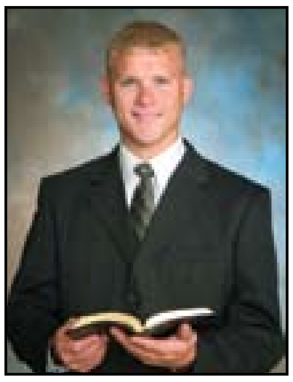

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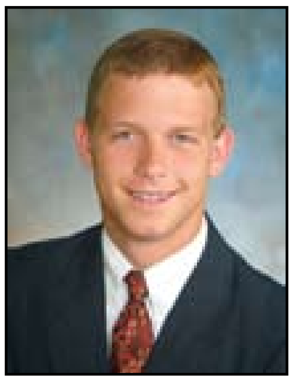

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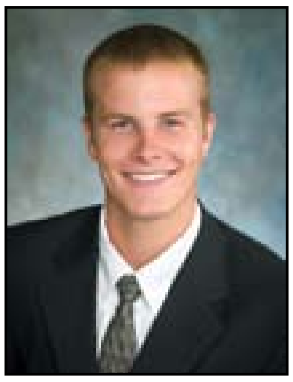

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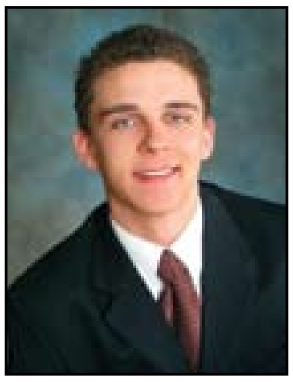

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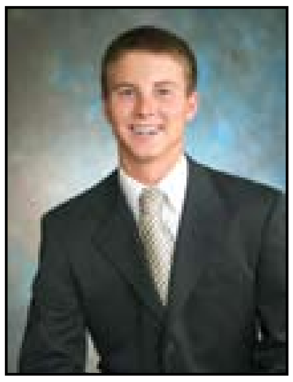

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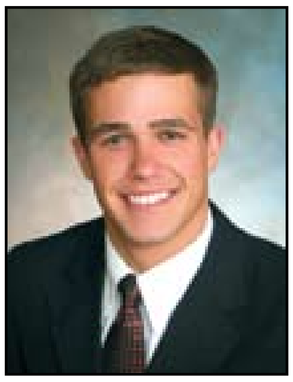

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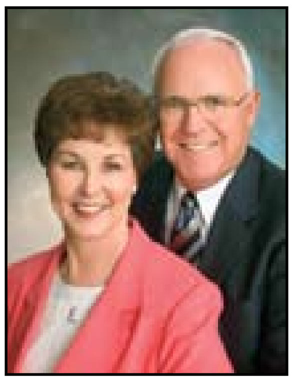

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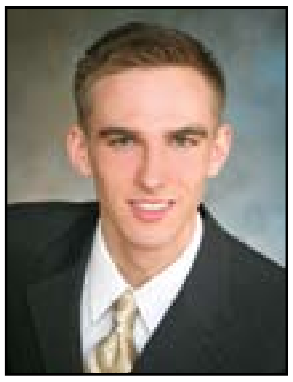

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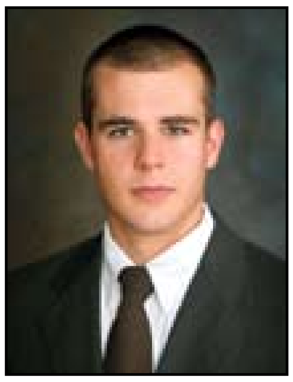

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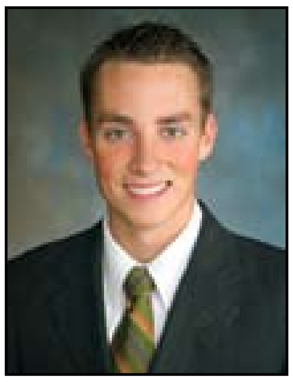

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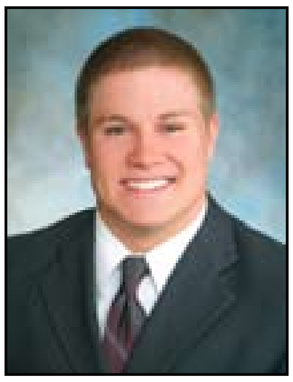

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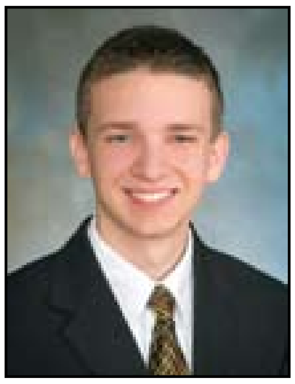

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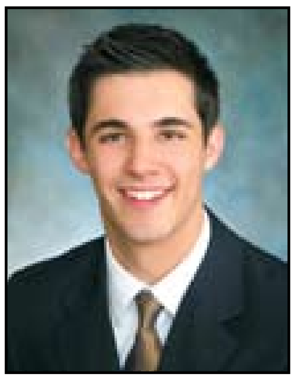

Sterling Wahl
Miller Ward
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Logan Wells
Valley View Ward
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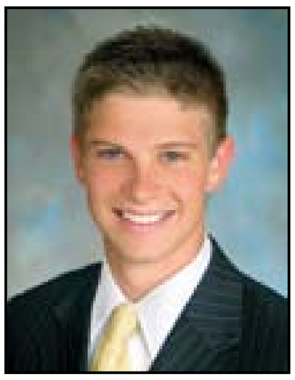

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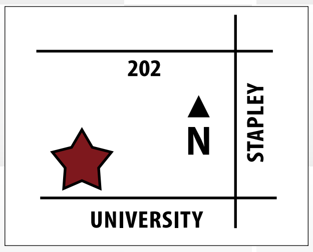

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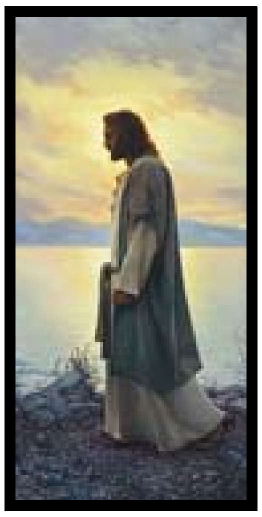

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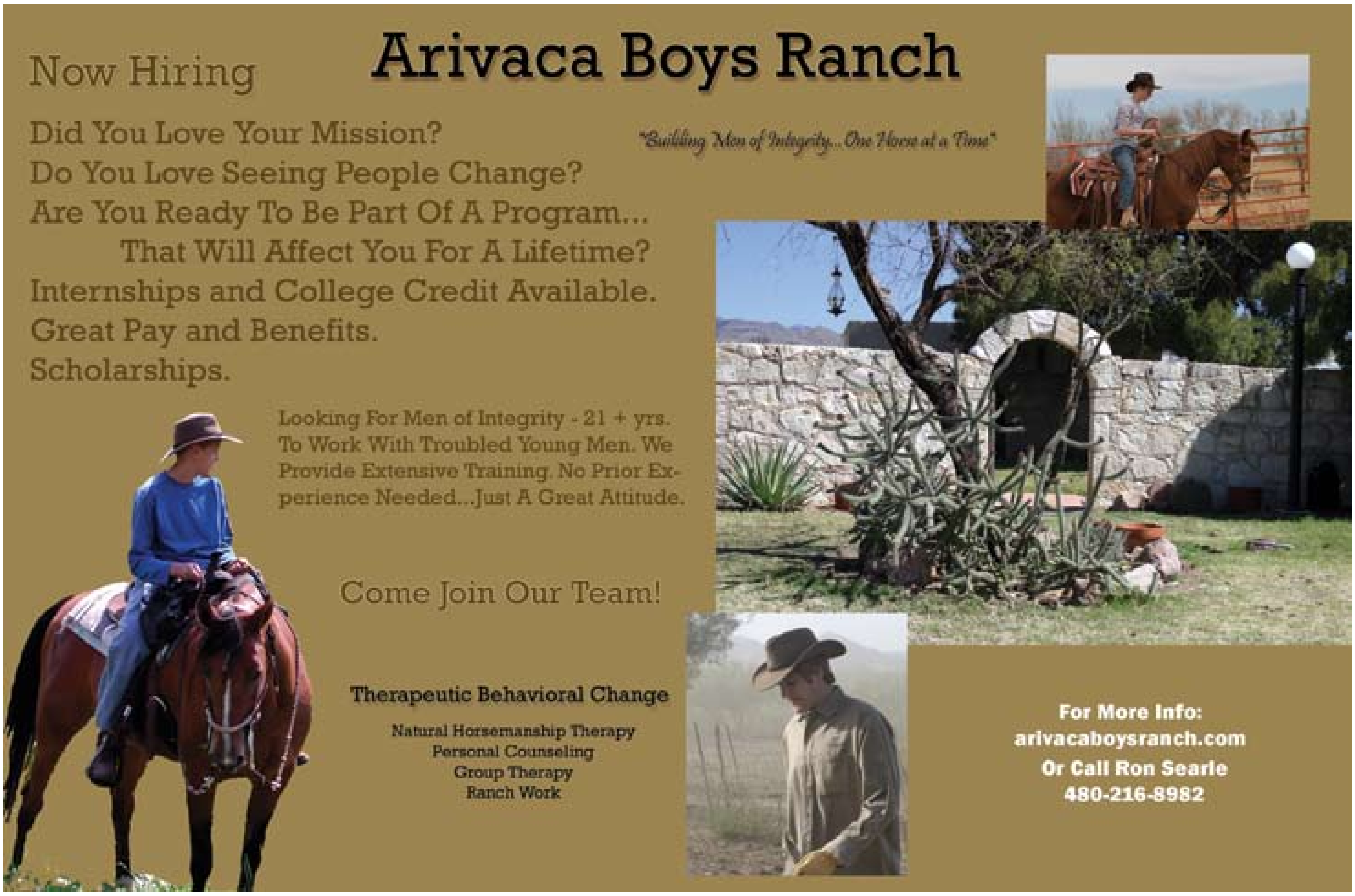

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Teens take the No Cussing Challenge and encourage others to do the same

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

With positive peer pressure set to music, the No Cussing Club's theme song begins: "Ya wanna hang with us? Don't cuss."

The No Cussing Club is a movement among teens to encourage other young people to clean up their language and to avoid cussing, bad language and dirty jokes.

Courtney Hatch, 13, and Cameron Hatch, 15, of the Gilbert 3rd Ward, Gilbert Highland Stake, recently started a chapter in Arizona. Courtney, who attends Greenfield Junior High, and Cameron, a student at Highland High School, have signed up on the No Cussing Club Web site, taken the "No Cussing Challenge" themselves, and have encouraged friends from school and church to do the same.

It was their cousin, McKay Hatch, 14, of the South Pasadena Ward in the Pasadena California Stake, who first started the No Cussing Club, which, in addition to the Arizona chapter, has spread to 15 other states, including Utah, New Mexico, Idaho, Nevada, Michigan, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Florida, and into the United Kingdom, China and Mexico. The No Cussing Club has captured endorsements from community and government leaders as well, including Los Angeles Sheriff Lee Baca; U.S. Congressman, Adam Schiff (D-CA); and South Pasadena Police Chief, Dan Watson.

"When I moved from elementary to middle school, a lot of my friends I thought would never cuss started cussing," says McKay. "It made them sound uneducated, but they saw it as the only way they could fit in."

McKay says he wanted to find a way to stand up for what he knew was right and to help others do the same.

"I wanted them to see they could be who they were not what other people were," says McKay.

Cameron witnessed the same thing

Continued on pg. 43

Photo courtesy of Brent Hatch

The No Cussing Club, started by McKay Hatch (in front), from Pasadena, California, now has a chapter in Arizona, as well as in 15 other states.

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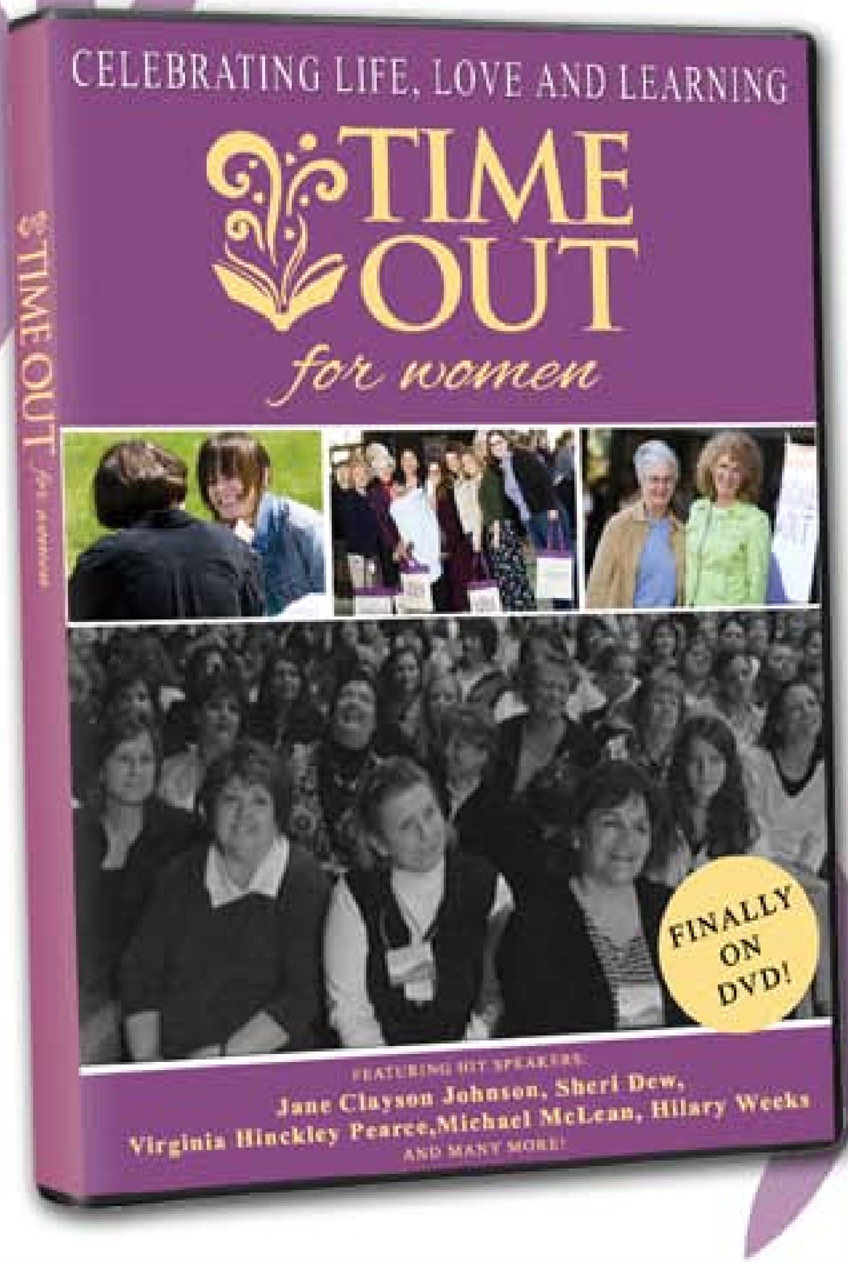
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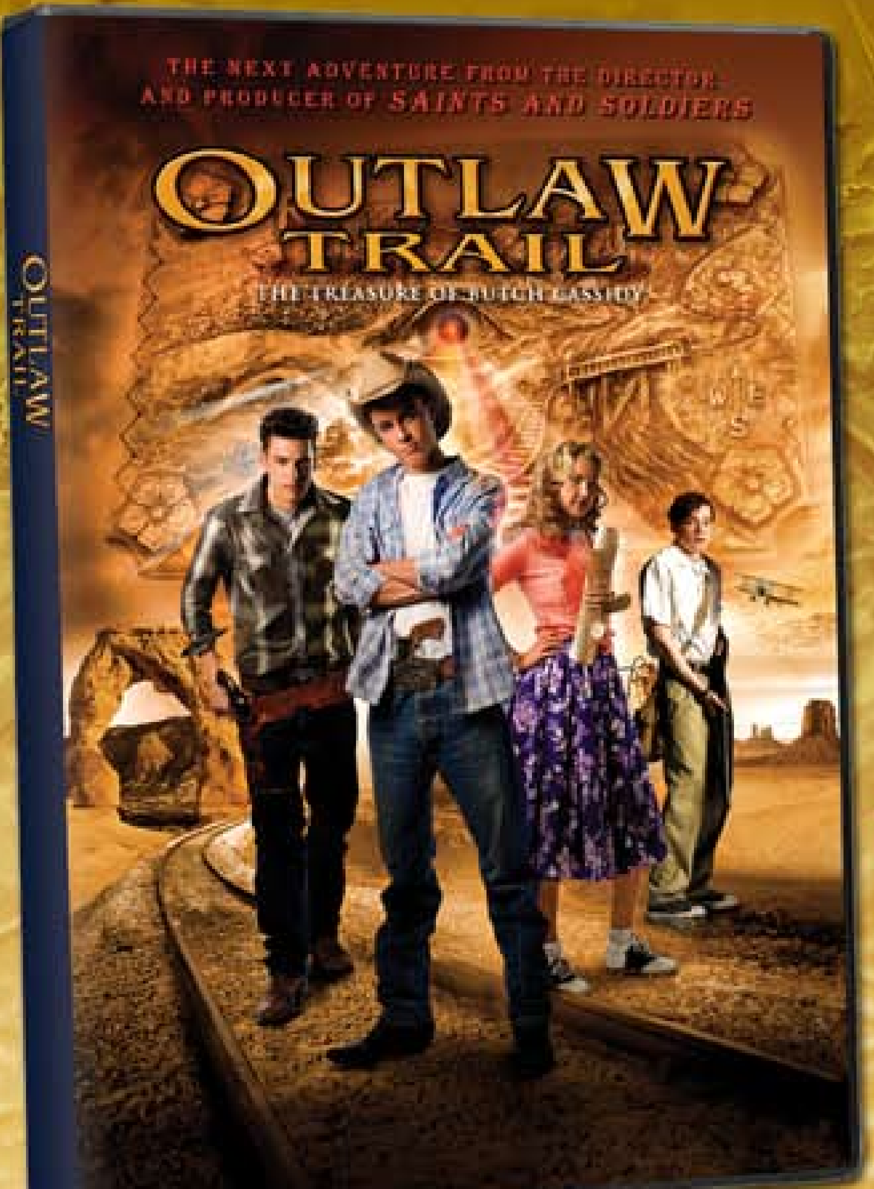
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Janette Rallison publishes squeaky clean novel number 12

By Rachel Faas Trim
The Beehive

Photo by Guy Rallison

Janette Rallison, recognized for her clean, humorous young adult novels, has recently published her 12th book, *How to Take the Ex Out of Ex-Boyfriend.*

Behind Janette Rallison's calm demeanor and youthful smile is the mind of a well-seasoned writer—full of plots and characters, with bits of setting and possible conclusions waiting to be fully developed.

The prolific author has six "sweet romance" books, written for teens and adults in the LDS market; and her recently released, *How to Take the Ex Out of Ex-Boyfriend* brings the total to another six that have been released in the national market, where her sales have already topped 600,000 copies.

In Janette's latest young adult novel, the main character, Giovanna, regrets breaking up with her boyfriend. However, she soon realizes that her commitments to a school political campaign and the efforts to win her boyfriend back involve more risk than she ever dreamed she'd take.

Janette admits that, subconsciously, she is always on the watch for laughable situations and life's "normal" learning opportunities that deserve a story line.

"I live in a home blessed with numerous plot climaxes and resolutions," she says.

Members of the Riggs 1st Ward, Chandler Stake, Janette and her husband, Guy, are the parents of five children, ages 5 to 19. She has been known to joke with her children's teenage friends urging them to be on their best behavior, or she might immortalize them as a book character. In fact, her family gave her an appropriate gift last Christmas: a t-shirt that read, "Careful, or you'll wind up in my next novel."

Janette's passion to write keeps her steadily producing books, at an average pace of two a year.

"My priority is to take care of my family. But, if I can manage to write two pages a day, that equals 730 pages a year. Sometimes other things have to take a back seat in order for me to accomplish my goal, such as housework and housework, and did I already mention housework?"

Laughing, she adds, "I embrace the saying, 'A creative mind is rarely tidy.'"

Her intention is to create teen literature that is both fun and worthwhile.

"I try to write books that are fun for kids to read," says Janette. "There

Continued on pg. 37

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Elder Chris Denton - Missouri St. Louis Mission

Newly formed

"TRIBUTE TO OUR HEROES FOUNDATION"

holds benefit concert

By Stephanie Abney
The Beehive

Photo by Roger Childers

The recently organized Tribute to our Heroes Foundation, with officers (left to right) Chad Bowman, Emily Childers and Rick Dalton, have scheduled their first annual concert to benefit children of police officers, soldiers and firefighters.

Having served 20 years as a Mesa police officer, Rick Dalton is all too familiar with the sacrifices that requires; and he's found a way to give back to those he says give so much.

"Most soldiers, firefighters and police officers would consider themselves to be ordinary people. Yet, we gladly call them 'heroes.' On a daily basis, these brave men and women put their lives on the line on our behalf as a normal part of their jobs," Rick says.

In a strong show of support for these men and women and their families, Brother Dalton, of the Chandler Alma 4th Ward, Chandler Alma Stake, created The Tribute to Our Heroes Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit organization that will award college scholarships to students whose parents or grandparents have been killed or seriously injured in the line of duty

Rick says, "These brave men and women often leave behind families who suffer in many ways due to their sacrifice. Financial hardship is only a small part of the suffering that these families have to bear after the loss or disability of their parent or grandparent. I wanted to find a way to repay those uniformed personnel who have given so much."

Brother Dalton, who is now a history teacher at Heritage Academy in Mesa, explains how the foundation works, "The Tribute to Our Heroes Foundation, Inc., is newly incorporated in Arizona and has applied for tax-exempt status with the IRS, so that donations will be tax-deductible. As the founder and president, I plan to hold an annual benefit concert to fund the scholarships. The first concert will be on November 10 at the Mesa Arts Center."

Other officers of the newly formed foundation include secretary, Emily Childers, of the Solomon Ward, Mesa South Stake. Emily formerly taught dance at Heritage Academy and now substitutes there.

Chad Bowman, of the Thunder Mountain Ward, Salt River Stake, and a graduate of Heritage Academy, is the foundation's treasurer.

Rick, Emily and Chad all have musical backgrounds. They performed together, with Emily as lead vocalist, in the band, *Dear Prudence,* which is now on hiatus due to the birth of Emily's first child.

Brother Dalton plays guitar in *The Gravity Band*, which performs classic rock and Brother Bowman plays guitar in the popular local band, *The Dorsets*, which has toured the western states and is working on their second album.

Veteran's Day Weekend Fundraising Concert:

The Tribute to Our Heroes Foundation will hold its first fundraising concert on November 10, 2007. Heading the show will be *Buck Howdy with BB*, a major recording artist providing family music in the tradition of Roy Rogers and Gene Autry. Buck Howdy has performed at the White House, and his music can be found on the Nickelodeon TV channel. Concertgoers say Buck is fun, funny and toe-tapping terrific.

The evening will also feature *The Dorsets, The Gravity Band,* and *Two-Five-Nine*. In addition to Chad Bow-

Continued on pg. 37

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Tribute To Our Heroes
Continued from pg. 36

man on guitar, *The Dorsets* includes LDS musician, Tim Heywood, in the recently formed, up-and-coming four-man group.

In Rick Dalton's *The Gravity Band*, four of the six band members are LDS: Rick; his daughter, Erika; Mike Johnson; and Brianne Howard. *Two-Five-Nine* is a nationally acclaimed a cappella singing group composed of seven LDS singers from the Valley.

Rick says the event is, "a family friendly concert you won't want to miss."

The November 10th concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Mesa Arts Center. All profits from the concert will go to college scholarships for children and grandchildren of police, military and firefighters who have been killed or seriously injured in the line of duty.

Tickets are $13 per person and can be purchased now at the Mesa Arts Center Web site: Go to http://www.mesaartscenter.com; click on BUY TICKETS, advance the CALENDAR to November 2007 and choose the link on the 10th to *Buck Howdy with BB* and *The Dorsets.*

"Attending this concert is a way to give back to those who have given so much to Arizona and their county," Rick says.

He says, "The Foundation also is seeking corporate and private donations to help cover concert costs so every cent brought in can go to those who deserve it most."

To make a donation, contact Rick Dalton at 480-234-2687 or by e-mail at:rickdalton89@hotmail.com.

Janette Rallison Publishes
Continued from pg. 35

are plenty of gut-wrenching, sad books where someone dies. Teachers and parents have commented to me that they often look for G-rated, fun, squeaky-clean books to share."

She says teens appreciate her novels as well.

"When a teen reads a book that makes them smile or laugh, they are more likely to read another and make reading a habit. I'm happy that my books fill a need in a market lacking in uplifting, light literature for teens."

An indication that Janette's books are hitting that mark is a recent recognition she received. Her 10th novel, *Fame, Glory, and Other Things On My To Do List* was chosen for the International Reading Association's list of Young Adults' Choices for 2007, a teen-generated list which is trusted by other teens, parents, and educators.

For more information about Janette Rallison, more of her humor, and a complete list and description of her books, visit her Web site at: www.janetterallison.com.

Audition changes announced for 2008 Easter Pageant auditions

Plans are underway for the 2008 Mesa Arizona Easter Pageant, with applications being taken online now, from September 15 through October 30.

Everyone must apply online this year, says Pageant Director Nanci Wudel.

"If you don't have a computer or Internet access, or don't know how to do this, ask your home teacher or visiting teacher for help," Sister Wudel suggests.

Spanish-speaking applicants only who need help applying may call Laura Flores, at 480-969-3575.

Visit www.easterpageant.org for details and to check the pageant schedule to make sure you will be able to attend all practices and performances.

To apply, complete the online portion of the application. Next, print out the ecclesiastical endorsement form from the Web site and have it signed by your bishop or branch president.

Take the signed form when you attend the mandatory live auditions. Auditions will be held at Red Mountain Institute, 7126 E. McKellips Road in Mesa (east of Power Road, off the 202 East) on Friday, November 2 or Saturday, November 3. The Web site lists recommended audition times according to first letter of last name. While auditions are mandatory, no acting will be required; but, directors will meet individually with each applicant or family.

Questions may be directed to Casting Coordinator, Kristen Cowley, at 480-230-3299, or Pageant Director, Nanci Wudel, at 480-844-8847.

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From the Editor's Desktop

By Cecily Markland

The Perfect Exit Strategy

My exit strategy was definitely flawed. Unsure of the area, but needing to get to a client's office at the appointed time, I'd carefully charted my course. Actually, Google did the charting. All I did was print the map.

What Google didn't know, but what I would soon learn enroute, thanks to a radio station's announcement, was that someone had driven a truck off a freeway overpass, blocking the lanes in the exact spot where my GoogleMap was directing me to go.

No problem. I figured Plan B would work wonderfully. I merged onto another freeway and forged ahead.

Sure enough, in just a little more time than it would have taken me otherwise, my re-route soon delivered me to an exit for the road I needed.

Only, here is where the problem began. I exited, thinking I could follow the original directions from there and still arrive in time. However, as I much later realized, the original directions had me exiting *west* of my final destination, whereas my "mind map" created as part of Plan B, put me several blocks *east* of that and … Well, you get the picture, though I'm not sure that my new client did.

In that case, and in others I could mention, I was somewhat "exit challenged." Yet, it did give me pause to think—and several extra minutes to do so as well—and I couldn't help but realize just how perfectly the Lord executes our entrances and exits into this world.

I contemplated that again at the passing of Elder James E. Faust, thinking that, had I had a GoogleMap in hand, I would have preferred that his exit be several years down the road. Yet, the Lord, with his perfect mapping, knew when and how that exit should take place. Not only that, but, in His tender mercy, He helps us see as well, helps us set our own maps aside, and points us back in the right direction. As we reflect on memories of Elder Faust, listen to the funeral songs, or to the beautiful tribute from the Prophet, we begin to recognize that, indeed, the Lord's exit strategy is perfect.

It's harder, perhaps, to understand when those exits are closer to home, when they come unexpectedly, or when we hope—and pray—for different outcomes. I certainly had a different plan in mind than to see my grandson exit this world just moments after his birth. Yet, in those moments, in an amazing endowment of the spirit, there were powerful lessons taught, across a veil that was very thin. In those moments came the realization, spoken by someone in the room, that, "We will all go sometime," and that this particular moment was appointed for Trevor to go. In those moments came an indescribable peace and a knowing, of the wondrous miracle of birth, the blessings of families, the worth of every soul, the reality of eternity, and the surety that life will continue after this earth.

There came, too, an overwhelming sense of the love our Heavenly Father has for each one of us.

And, in that moment, I saw, and I knew one thing above all: His exit strategy is perfect.

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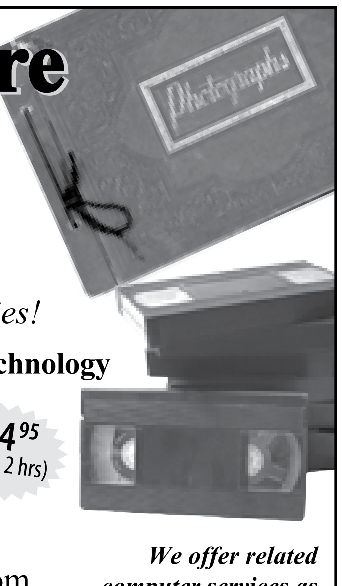

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with
Jill B. Adair

Discover LDS art

The Internet offers a wide world of beautiful and inspiring art, available at our fingertips.

A few years ago, when it was early in his career, I had the opportunity to interview artist Greg Olson. He told me, in painting gospel subjects, he was following the advice of President Spencer W. Kimball, who he had met on his mission. President Kimball told Brother Olson that the Church needed more artists.

Today, it seems more and more painters and sculptors are using their talents and spiritual inspiration to bring to light the messages of the restored gospel and help us understand the gospel in different and, many times, deeper ways. Through great art, we are often able to see the hand of God.

Perhaps you aren't sure which artists you like or which pieces you would want to have to adorn your home. By viewing their work online, you can decide which ones touch your soul. Many Web sites offer galleries of art for viewing, buying or downloading.

LDSart.com offers presents a variety of religious fine art, including well-known paintings from LDS artists such as Simon Dewey and Del Parson and other touching, but not-so-familiar, works such as "The Promise" by Morgan Weistling and "The Ten Lepers" by James C. Christensen. Search by artist, by subject or by keyword. The site includes stories about the painting from the artist as well as links to other works and to interesting biographies.

Don't miss the Museum of Church History and Art online at www.lds.org. Click on "About the Church," then "Church History." You can view the museum's permanent exhibits and the changing, temporary exhibits on special themes. These online galleries give you an amazing opportunity to experience the next best thing to being there, as you can read about the paintings and sculptures and can move around to see the details of the pieces. The exhibits, far too many to list, include a wide range of topics, including: Rembrandt: The Biblical Etchings, Scenes from the Land of Promise: Book of Mormon Paintings by Walter Rane, Boyd K. Packer: The Lifework of an Amateur Artist and Artwork from previous International Art Competitions. This really is a "must see" Web site for anyone interested in LDS art.

BYU's site, http://moa.byu.edu, also offers exhibits for online viewing; click on "Collections." The Museum's collection has particularly large holdings of works by J. Alden Weir, Mahonri Young, Maynard Dixon and Minerva Teichert.

Other gospel art can be found at www.lds.org. The LDS gospel art kit, with pictures suitable for use in teaching Family Home Evening or church classes, can be downloaded or ordered online.

A lot of downloadable LDS clipart can be found at http://lds.about.com/od/clipart/LDS_Clipart_and_Mormon_Art.htm.

For in-depth articles about up-and-coming LDS artists and artwork, visit www.meridianmagazine.com/arts, search "art" or "artist" or an artist's name.

Also on Meridian's Web site, I highly recommend an article by Kieth Merrill, titled "God's Purpose for the Artist in the Gospel Plan." This article provides good insight about how an artist can use universal symbols, images, sounds and feelings to cross cultural boundaries and speak to hearts the message of the restored gospel.

Editor's Note: This column is designed to provide Beehive readers with timesaving direction and ideas for safely and easily surfing the Internet. To suggest a topic for a future column or to share an interesting Web site with others, e-mail: 5adair@cox.net.

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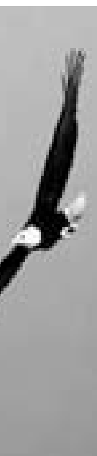

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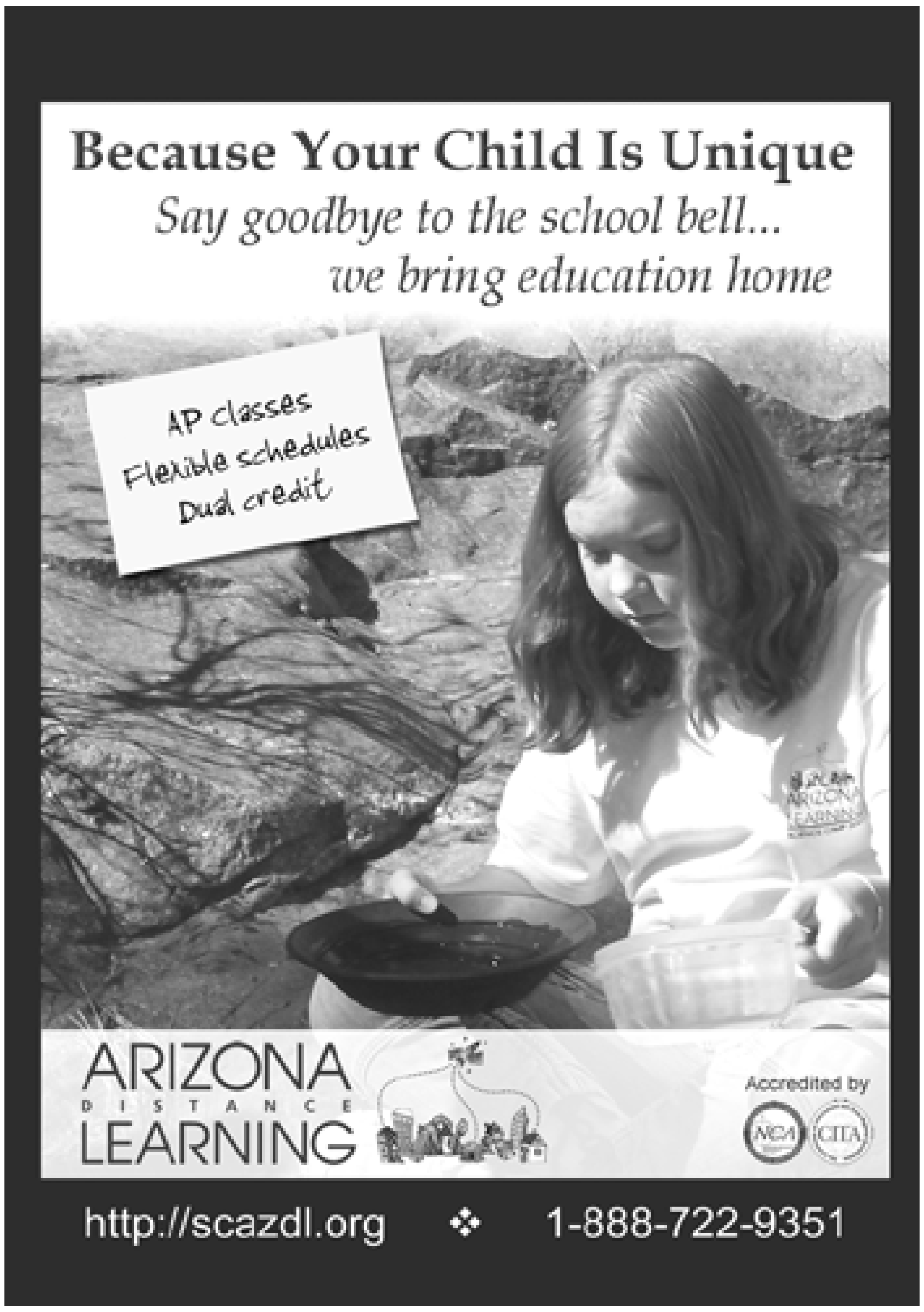

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Photo by Jill Adair

Diane Barber (front) and Beckah Jones work out with an aerobics group that started more than 20 years ago and is open to women from any stake and at any age or fitness level.

Twenty years since it started, aerobics group is still going

STRONG

By Molly Marks
The Beehive

As has been the case for the past 20 years, music and exercise converge every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning as a group of about 20 women show up for aerobics at an LDS meetinghouse in Mesa.

It was March 1987 the group first started.

At the time, the Relief Society was following a Church-wide program known as "The Pursuit of Excellence," which encouraged goal setting in four different areas: spiritual, intellectual, personal and physical.

Knowing physical fitness is an area that is often neglected, Jill Adair, now a member of the Mesa Kimball East Stake, and other women from the 58th Ward decided to start doing aerobics together so they could have fun while getting fit.

While it was only 58th Ward members at the beginning, word got out and soon other members of the stake started coming.

"Even women who moved out of the stake would return for their workouts," Sister Adair says.

Today, the group continues to welcome women from other stakes, and of all ages and ability levels.

"The group consists of all ages. We had one woman named Margaret Freestone who, at 73 years old, attended aerobics on a regular basis," Jill says.

Jill says women seem to like the format of the class.

"It's a casual environment, but a great workout. We are not trying to impress anyone," Jill says.

She adds they sometimes like to mix things up, switching teachers from time to time and, "We have even tried water aerobics when a pool is available."

During the summer, the group occasionally has a young woman come in to provide babysitting. During the school year, class participants often take turns watching the children.

Continued on pg. 41

Photo by Bryan Cox

Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband, a Utah-based band that has captured national attention will present four shows in Arizona in November, featuring the unique musical style of band members, (left to right) Bart Olson, Craig Miner, Ryan Shupe, Roger Archibald and Ryan Tilby.

Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband to perform in Arizona

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband, a Utah-based band that has experienced tremendous national success, will make tour stops in Arizona on November 14, 15, 16 and 17.

The band has captured national attention as they have toured and performed with countless country music celebrities and recently signed a record deal with Capitol Records in Nashville.

Their concerts have been described as a "breathtaking blast of manic musical virtuosity" and they have self-dubbed their music style, "PostHee-HawFunkadelicHipHopNewGrass" music, because it draws from many musical influences including rock, bluegrass, pop, country, jazz, and folk.

The five-member band includes Roger Archibald (guitar, vocals), Colin Botts (bass, vocals), Craig Miner (banjo, bouzouki, guitar, mandolin and vocals), Bart Olson (drums), and Ryan Shupe (lead vocals, fiddle, mandolin and guitar).

"Their story is a great one and can certainly be inspirational to anyone trying to make it through life while standing up for their beliefs. Not to mention, their show is incredible," says promoter Jeremy Barron, owner of Stone Angel Music.

Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband will appear in Show Low, Safford and Mesa and in a fourth Arizona location that was not yet determined at the time of this publication. For more information about the band, their music and tour information, visit their Web site at www.shupe.net

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Aerobics Group Still Going Strong

Continued from pg. 40

Sister Adair says the three hours the women spend together each week not only helps young and old alike reach their fitness goals, but also allows them to enjoy the company of other women and get to know them better.

"We often have socials and get-togethers outside of aerobics," Sister Adair says. "On occasion we will have healthy treats after workouts to celebrate someone having a baby or to say goodbye to someone who is moving," Jill says.

The group has changed over the past two decades, so, today, Sister Adair and her good friend, JuDene Brown of Mesa, are the only original members of the group who still participate.

Yet, even as sisters have come and gone from the group, wonderful friendships have developed from meeting together regularly, Jill says.

Sister Adair believes one of the reasons the group has had such longevity and has been so successful is because of the support they receive from the wards.

"We are only asked to be mindful of the music we listen to and the clothing that we wear," she says.

The group meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the meetinghouse at 2835 East Des Moines in Mesa. They offer regular aerobics on Mondays and Wednesdays and step aerobics on Fridays.

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HISTORIC SNOWFLAKE ACADEMY

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

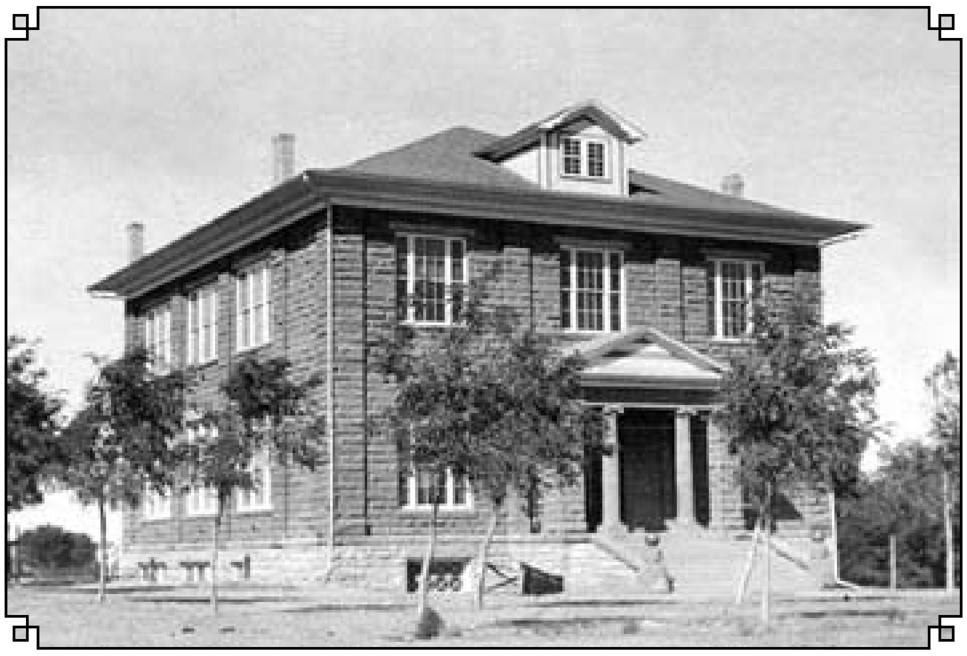

Photo courtesy of the Snowflake Academy Foundation

The Snowflake Academy Foundation is dedicated to restoring the Snowflake Academy Building, shown here as it was in 1913, so its history can be preserved and it can be used as a public library and special collections room.

Much more than just a building, the historic Snowflake Academy is a symbol of the emphasis the LDS Church places on education and of the hard-fought determination of the early Arizona Saints to follow a prophet's counsel.

A recent meeting, the Snowflake Academy Foundation outlined the continuing efforts to preserve the history and spirit of the Snowflake Academy.

"To encourage participation by a wide range of community members, both LDS and non-LDS, this meeting was held at the Valley View Southern Baptist Church," says David K. Flake, the Snowflake Academy Foundation historian.

The meeting included a historical overview, by Gordon Farr, Jr., Academy Board President, and a discussion of plans for moving forward, moderated by Charlie Hendrickson, newly elected Snowflake Town Council member, stake leader and Arizona Public Service area supervisor, who is the son of Hyrum A. Hendrickson, a prominent Church leader and high school principal during many of the years the building was in use.

The Snowflake Academy was built at the direction of President Wilford Woodruff, who, in August 1888, wrote to Snowflake Stake President, Jesse N. Smith, encouraging the establishment of a stake academy.

"This academy was intended to provide schooling beyond the elementary grades, which was then unavailable in rural areas," explains Brother Flake.

Church-sponsored academies date from the days of Karl G. Maeser, the first president of Brigham Young University, which began as a Church-sponsored academy.

The Snowflake Academy opened January 21, 1889, using borrowed church facilities. The first principal was Edward M. Webb, followed the next year by Levi M. Savage. Twelve years later, in September 1901, a new brick building was opened for classes with Joseph Peterson as principal.

A large addition was completed in August 1910.

"This impressive building was probably the largest building in northeastern Arizona at that time," Brother Flake says.

Just weeks later, on Thanksgiving morning, the building caught fire and was gutted, leaving only blackened brick walls.

The community rallied and, the following Monday morning, school was in session, with classes being held in various church and private buildings and homes. Funds were raised to rebuild the building using locally quarried stone.

More than 1,000 attended when President Joseph F. Smith dedicated the new building on November 13, 1913.

"During the early 1920s, the Church decided that they could no longer afford to support academies as long as a state-funded school district could be formed," Brother Flake writes.

The Snowflake Union High School opened in the fall of 1924, using the 11-year-old Snowflake Academy building for classes.

Brother Flake explains, "The building, owned by the Church, was leased to the school district for a dollar a year for many years and was eventually purchased by the school. Over the next 75 years…as enrollment grew, new buildings were added until 1999 when a new school library was built and the Academy left empty and unneeded. In 2001, the historic building was turned over to the town of Snowflake."

He continues, "For the past six years town leaders and interested citizens have envisioned the historic building being restored as a town library."

Grant money was used to replace the roof and restore the east-facing windows to their original design. An extensive architectural study deemed the building structurally sound.

The intent is to remodel the three interior floors into a modern, state-of-the-art library, while maintaining its outside appearance and designation on the register of historical places. The cost has been estimated between $2 million and $3 million.

While efforts to raise funds through three bond elections have been defeated, support remains strong.

"People want it restored, they just are opposed to raising taxes to do it," Brother Flake says. "Now, it's up to us to preserve and keep in use this remarkable structure."

He explains the Snowflake Academy Foundation is working toward that end in conjunction with the Snowflake Heritage Foundation.

"Local citizens have banded together to raise the necessary funds, a commendable, but difficult task," he says. "They are now reaching out to the entire state and beyond to Snowflake Academy alumni and descendents of former Academy students for contributions."

Tax-deductible donations may be sent to the Snowflake Academy Foundation, 30 West 2nd South, Snowflake, Arizona 85937. For more information, visit www.snowflakeacademy.com.

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Robert F. Farwell

Are You Prepared to Help Aging Parents?

If you are entering young adulthood and into your middle-aged years, and you happen to be among those whose parents are still living, you are fortunate, indeed. However, with that good fortune, also comes concerns and, as your parents age, you will need to become increasingly aware of the added responsibilities you may have to assume. By planning ahead, things can be easier for all concerned.

In dealing with various matters relating to aging parents—particularly financial matters—the key is open and frequent communication. That means you'll need to find out everything you can about your parents' assets, debts and estate plans.

You can start by finding out if your parents have a simple will in place. If they don't, urge them to get one. Your parents have worked hard all their lives and they should be able to have their assets distributed according to their wishes rather than as a court decrees, which is what would happen if they were to die "intestate" (without a will). Even if your parents have a simple will, they still may need to take further action. If they have a sizable estate or want to give significant gifts to charitable groups, encourage them to consult with an attorney who specializes in estate planning.

You'll also need to learn whatever you can about your parents' savings and investments. Which banks and financial service providers hold your parents' assets? Where are the records of these accounts? Do they work with a financial advisor? You need to know these things in case your parents become incapacitated or die unexpectedly. State treasurer's offices regularly advertise "unclaimed" property, including investments—some of which have simply eluded the attention of family members.

In addition to learning about savings and investments, you may want to encourage your parents to create a durable general power of attorney, which allows them to appoint another person to conduct their business affairs in the event they are physically or mentally incapacitated and unable to manage their affairs themselves.

You also can ease some potential worries by having your parents create a medical power of attorney, which empowers you (or another relative or close friend) to make health care decisions for your parents should they get seriously injured or ill and are unable to make such decisions on their own.

Long-term care is another subject you may want to discuss with your parents. Of course, they may never need to enter a nursing home or require the services of a home health care worker. However, if they do, the expenses can be enormous. For example, the average annual cost of a private room in a nursing home is more than $75,000, according to the 2006 annual MetLife Market Survey of Nursing Home and Home Care.

If your parents needed this type of care, it could wipe out their financial independence—and possibly place a burden on you or your siblings. Currently, Medicaid pays almost half the costs of long-term care, but, to qualify for this government program, your parents would have to "spend down" almost all their assets—an unattractive prospect. Consequently, you may want to talk to your parents about other ways of paying for these costs.

If you are in this situation, with parents who are aging, start discussing these types of issues with your parents soon. As you can see, there's a lot of ground to cover, and the sooner you start, the better.

No Cussing Club

Continued from pg. 33

in his Arizona high school.

"He's in high school now and hears it so much, it drives him nuts," says Cameron's mother, Tina Hatch. "He wanted to get involved with McKay's thing and also to get more kids involved."

Courtney and Cameron plan to have monthly meetings to support and encourage their friends as well as to find ways to make a positive impact by removing graffiti or giving service in the community.

"Just thinking about this has helped them notice needs and actually be more aware of their surroundings," says Tina.

McKay says he has been pleased to see the response from both young people and adults as they have seen members wearing the club's t-shirts or have run across the video of the theme song—written by McKay with his uncle, Cary Inouye, and his father, Brent Hatch—on You Tube.

McKay says his convictions come from "mom and dad teaching me I need to be myself and from the gospel and what it teaches."

He says, his parents, Brent and Phelecia Hatch who wrote the book *Raising a G-Rated Family in an X-Rated World,* sponsored his club and have inspired him to stand up for his beliefs. Still, it wasn't until he tried it that he learned how effective it could be.

Now, McKay says, "Through the No Cussing Challenge, I realized that I could use positive peer pressure on my friends. If my friends could say no to cussing, how much easier it will be for them to say no to drugs, violence, and pornography," McKay says.

To take the No Cussing Challenge or get involved with the No Cussing Club, visit www.nocussing.com.

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By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Invented by Louis Daguerre in 1840, photography evolved slowly at first, but in the last few years it has exploded. Brandt Photography, a full service photographic portrait studio, has kept pace with progress, developing ways to bring the best of the past and present together.

As digital technology has emerged, Brandt Photography has capitalized on this convenience.

"Many times we are asked to create a family portrait, though some family members are missing. We photograph the missing people at a later date in poses that match, then add them into the family group. No one can ever tell that they were not even there," says studio owner, Brandt Seegmiller.

Brandt Photography also can flatter clients with "a little body sculpting here or a little more hair there," he says. Or, for large groups, Brandt pulls the best expressions from different poses and creates the "Perfect Family Portrait."

"It is truly amazing what we can do digitally," says Brandt.

"One of the best things about new technology is the ability to restore the ravages of time on your old family photos," he adds.

Brandt can fix damage, remove objects, and restore fading, and, with a new archival digital process, can add color and make new archival prints, so "every family member can have a complete set of family photos that look and feel like the originals," he says.

"It's very exciting," says Brandt, who has been doing this for 34 years. "We are now capable of higher quality and more creativity. The only limitation is the imagination."

Another advantage with the new technology is the speed.

"We have been able to start with a snapshot on Friday, extract a person from it, add a new background and make a large display portrait for a funeral on Saturday morning," Brandt says, adding, "We always go out of our way for funerals because it is such an emotional time for people. It's very satisfying to do something positive that comforts people."

Having embraced digital photography about two years ahead of other studios, Brandt continues to be on the cutting edge.

"While the learning curve is never ending, the possibilities are also endless."

Brandt Photography can answer questions and provide solutions for old family photos, and, "while you are at it, why not let Brandt Photography create some wonderful new portrait memories for you," Brandt says.

Brandt and his wife Karen, of the Mountain Park Ward, Tempe West Stake, have raised two sons, "through missions, marriage and grandkids—our greatest achievement," he says.

Brandt Photography, at 156 S. Mesa Drive, Suite 101, (next to Deseret Book) in Mesa, can be reached at 480-834-1400 or online at www.brandtphoto.net

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By Rachel Faas Trim
The Beehive

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He says families find traveling with www.LDS.Travel is money well spent.

“Families build memories as they experience different parts of the world together. The memories that you retain from taking a trip as a family will far exceed those of remodeling a bathroom,” he says.

Brian, a member of Riverton Utah’s Summerhill Stake, serves in the bishopric of the Stone Ridge Ward. He and his wife, Christine, have four children: Shane, Nadine, Angela and Grace.

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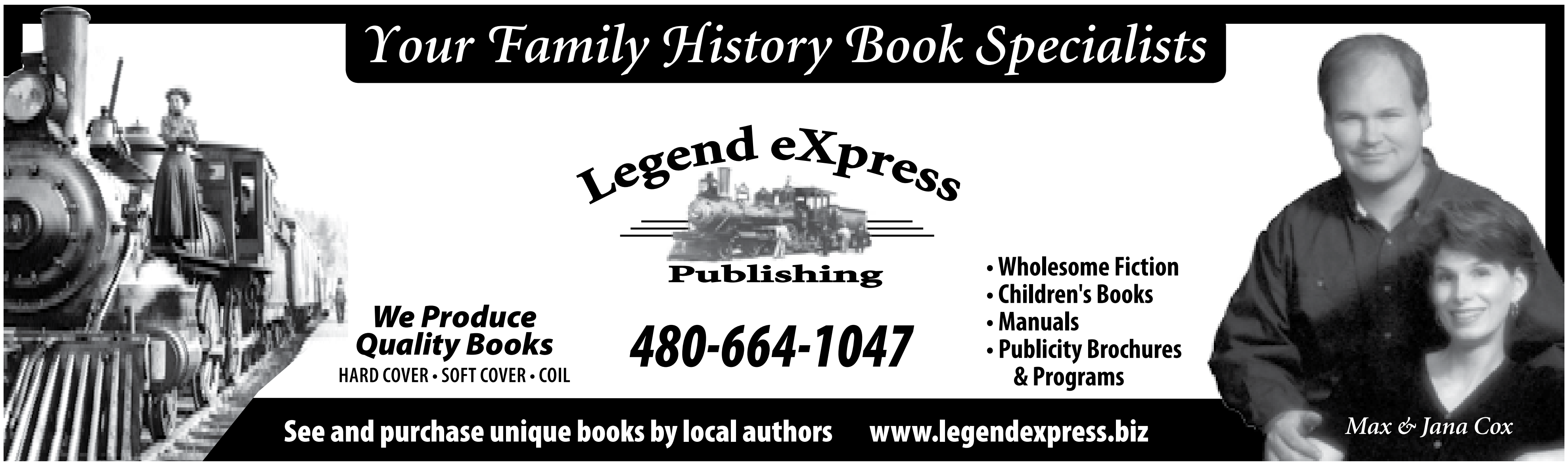

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Castle Floors

offers VALUE, SERVICE and a wide SELECTION of floor coverings

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The Castle Floors staff (l to r) Jhefri Vilchez, owner Dean Merrell, Jeanne Haynes, April Allen and Jim Haynes, are recognized for their product knowledge and superior service.

Photo by Cecily Markland

In 1986, when Dean and Peggy Merrell opened Castle Carpets, skeptics may have scoffed at their decision.

"I started right when construction took a dive, in 1986-87," Dean says.

Yet, Castle Carpets weathered that unpromising economic environment and steadily became a thriving business.

Dean, a Mesa native and currently in the Century Gardens Ward, Kimball East Stake, had started his first business, a carpet cleaning business, to support a growing family while pursuing a degree at Brigham Young University.

Besides cleaning homes and apartment buildings all over Utah Valley, Dean brags that LaVell Edwards' wife, Patti, periodically called him to clean carpets in their home.

The Merrells eventually returned to the Valley where they started Castle Carpets.

The store has since grown in volume and in the products it offers.

"With an average growth rate of about 12 percent per year, annual business volume doubled over a period of about six years," Dean says, "and, even with a slow-down in new construction in recent months, we are still ahead of last year at this same time."

Within the last year, to emphasize the variety of floor coverings they offer, Castle Carpets officially changed its name to Castle Floors.

Initially working primarily with contractors and custom-home builders, Castle Floors now finds replacing flooring in existing homes is a major portion of their business, and, they have significantly increased their product offerings to meet their clients' needs and interests.

Castle Floors offers carpet, ceramic and porcelain tiles, travertine and stone, Karndean (wood-look commercial-grade vinyl planks), wood floors and laminates, sheet vinyl, as well as granite countertops, window coverings and more.

The company prides itself in giving the same superior customer service it has from the beginning.

Dean says the Castle Floors staff takes time to listen and thoroughly assess customers' needs. They then educate customers about the various types of flooring, steering them away from products that might wear too quickly or don't clean very easily.

"If they're heading the wrong direction, we'll tell them that and say, 'You might want to consider this one instead,'" Dean says. "I don't make the products, but I do know what I would and wouldn't put in my own house."

At Castle Floors, "our product knowledge is one of the best things we have to offer. We like to think we know what we're talking about after all these years."

Along with superior personal service and product knowledge, Castle Floors offers tremendous value—and, in almost every case, sells products for less than the chain stores and building supply stores.

As a result, Dean says, "Way more than half the people that come in have been referred by someone else," and, "many former customers return years later to update and freshen with contemporary looks."

"Castle Floors anticipates many years of growth in Arizona with solid, long-term customer relationships," he says.

Castle Floors, at 4500 East Main Street, #3, in Mesa, is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and may be reached by calling (480) 396-6956.

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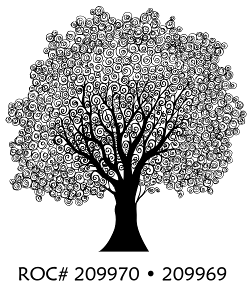

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In The Mommy Zone...

By Kristie Young Fairbanks

No Place Like Home

Three weeks ago, we went on a vacation to Orlando, Florida. I was in charge of this summer's family reunion, painstakingly orchestrating the perfect getaway for our large family group.

I had been plotting and planning this trip for over a year, precisely arranging each and every detail including airfare, car rental, housing accommodations, and the like. I wrote and rewrote the daily itinerary a myriad of times, recreating the particulars over and over in my mind, designing up to the minute specifications.

On the fateful day of our flights, we piled into our overstuffed minivan, bulging with the week's baggage, at around 4:30 A.M., eagerly anticipating the commencement of our extraordinary journey. We led quite a procession into the Phoenix airport that day.

With hefty luggage in tow, backpacks strapped to each child, stroller and car seat lagging and tagging along behind, tickets, confirmations, and maps bulging every which way, we strained with our load to the end of the lengthy ticket counter line. Our long-awaited, grand adventure had finally begun!

After three hours on a plane to Georgia, a two hour lay-over in the Atlanta airport, a change of planes and another hour flight to Orlando, we retrieved our massive luggage allotment and hopped a shuttle to the rental car agency. We then stood in another winding line for the privilege of renting an over-priced minivan and loaded up again.

Then my three-year-old daughter looked up at me and with a pronounced yawn of satisfaction, announced that she'd had a wonderful trip and was ready to go home. We hadn't even begun our vacation yet, technically, and she was ready to end it all in exchange for sleeping in her own bed, with her own pillow, which unfortunately, was a mere 2,100 miles away.

"Mom, I'm sleepy. How much longer until we get home?" she queried with a look of such innocence that I couldn't help but smile.

But my mind reeled with her grand revelation. I attempted to remind her of what fun awaited us all, including spending time with cousins, visiting several Disney theme parks, and a trip to the beach. As I rattled off the week's itinerary, she cut me off mid-sentence.

"But I just want to go home," she persisted pleadingly, her blue eyes sparkling and her blonde curls bouncing. "I like it there."

I was stumped. Here we were, in one of the happiest places on Earth, or so I thought, and all my young daughter wanted to do was to go home.

Her profound admission kept resurfacing in my mind as we hustled here and there, experiencing the week-long rush and exhilaration of all the aforementioned thrills. The kids had the time of their lives on our trip and we made many special family memories, but the one that I hold most dear is my daughter's humble wish.

It was all brought home to me when in Florida, we visited a re-creation of the movie set of "The Wizard of Oz," complete with robotic, singing Munchkins in Munchkinland. The set was hypnotic, depicting the scene in the movie when Dorothy tells the little people she wants to return home to Kansas. I stared at the winding rectangles of the yellow brick road, mesmerized by what they represented, remembering what my little girl had told me.

Taking a page from "Oz," we Moms may be the wicked witch of the West at times, but we've also got a heart of gold like the tin man, a brain of know-how like the scarecrow, a soul full of courage like the cowardly lion and a sincere desire for our families to feel the way Dorothy felt about her Kansas home.

Vacations are a great way to build family bonds, share special memories and create family relationships that tie each member together. Our trip to Florida was no exception, the children still speak excitedly of the escapade we enjoyed together.

But trips afar also help to remind us that home is the ultimate place to be, and eventually, we can all get there, even without the aid of Dorothy's sparkly red shoes clicked together three times.

My tender daughter and I share Dorothy's sentiment. Surely, "There's no place like home!"

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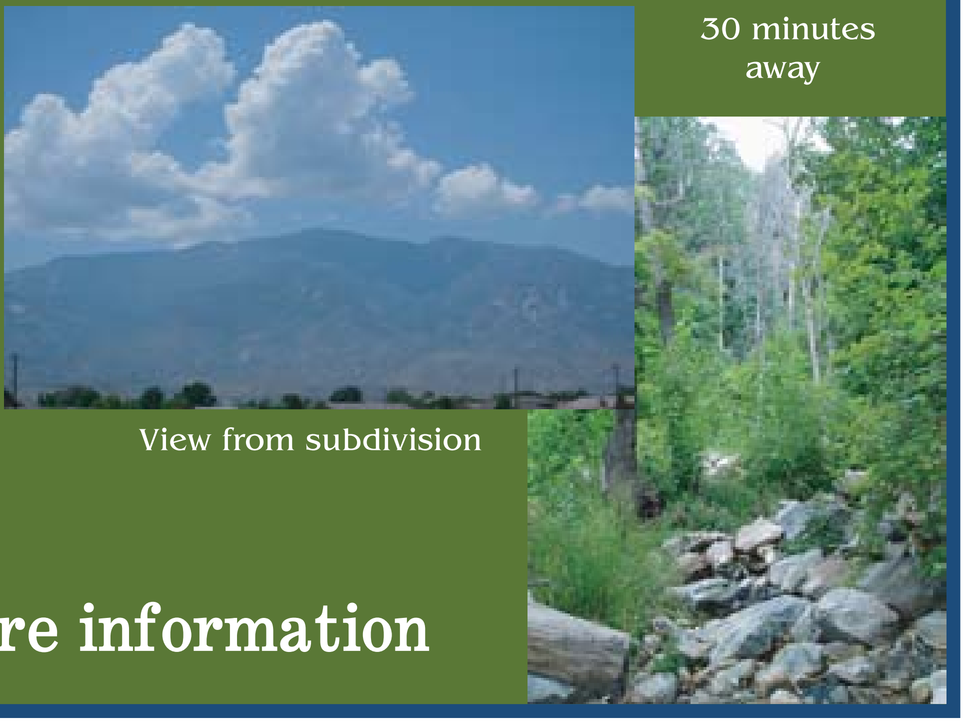

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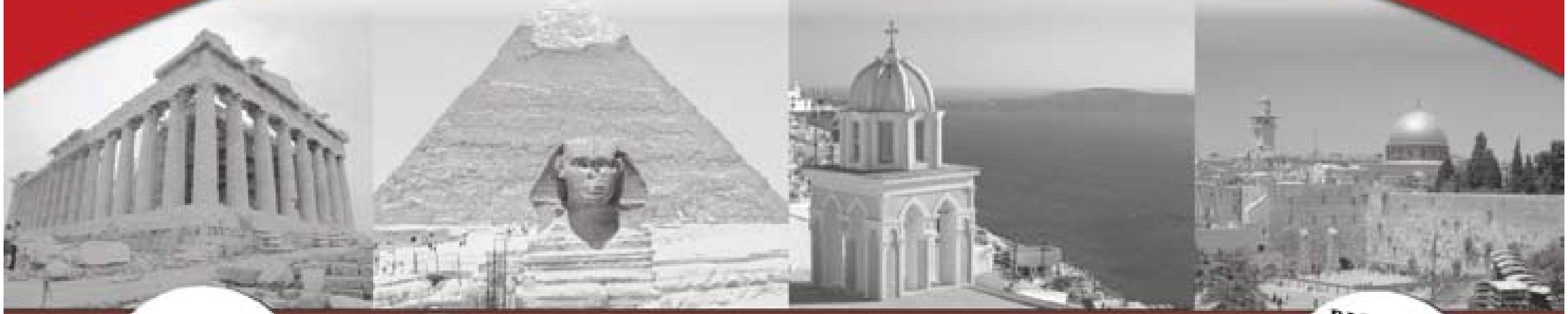

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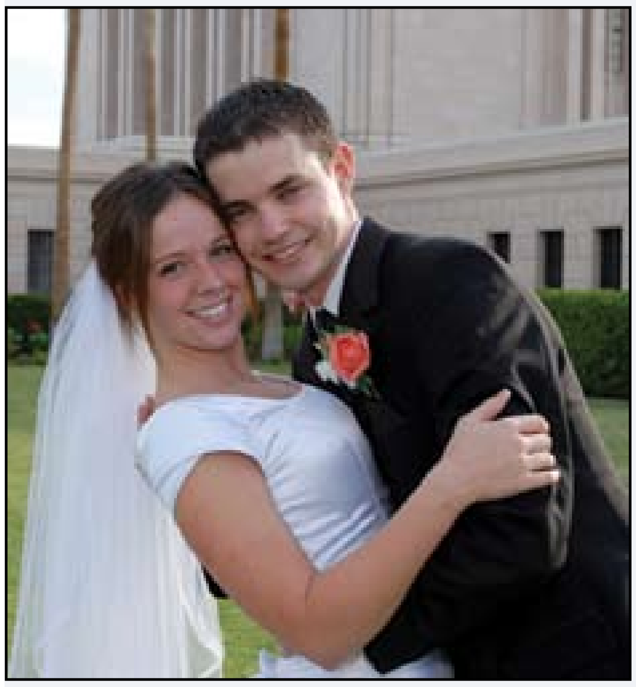

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Gilbert, AZ 85234
480-892-0903

Big O Tires
750 S. Lindsay Road
Gilbert, AZ 85296
480-633-2446

Invision Auto Body
4134 E. Valley Auto Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85206
www.InvisionAutoBody.com
480-503-1414

LeSueur Car Company
1109 E. Curry Rd.
Tempe, AZ 85281
www.usedVWaudi.com
480-968-6611

Purcell Tire Co.
4707 W. Camelback
Phoenix, AZ 85031
602-252-5757

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Osmer D. Heritage Inn
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Snowflake, AZ 85937
www.heritage-inn.net
928-536-3322

Nauvoo Country Lodge
iandro@cox.net
www.NauvooCountryLodge.com
1-888-364-3232

Bookstores

Deseret Book
5820 W. Greenway Rd. #112
Glendale, AZ 85306
602-439-4809

Deseret Book
144 S. Mesa Dr. #A
Mesa, AZ 85210
480-969-2170

Deseret Book
1350 S. Gilbert Rd. #4
Mesa, AZ 85204
480-926-3234

Deseret Book/Lion House Pantry
2860 W. Chandler Blvd. #15
Chandler, AZ 85224
480-899-5469

Pioneer LDS Books
& Custom Framing
2820 E. University #102
Mesa, AZ 85213
480-832-8433

Carpets

Castle Floors
4500 E. Main St. #3
Mesa, AZ 85205
480-396-6956
dmccaz@juno.com

Catering

Diana Tenney
bglopez@qwest.net
602-628-6051

Children's Clothing

CriSmons Childrens Clothing
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480-969-0462

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Deseret Industries
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Phoenix
602-995-8822

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Mesa, AZ
480-964-8738

Counseling

David C. Hubbard, Ph. D., P.L.C.
Psychologist
1237 S. Val Vista Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85204
www.dhubbard.org
480-776-3386

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Jester'z All Ages Comedy Show
info@jesterzimprov.com
www.jesterzimprov.com
480-423-0120

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SanTan Computer, Inc.
steve@santancomputer.com
www.santancomputer.com
480-251-4347

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www.asksharryl.myctmh.com
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Oral Surgeon
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Mesa, AZ 85203
480-833-5230

University Dental
1010 E. University Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85203
480-644-7777
www.uuandidental.com

Utah College of Dental Hygiene
Provo/Orem, Utah
kenmolen@aol.com
www.ucdh.edu
801-426-8234

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Diet Center
832 W. Baseline #16 (N.W. Corner)
Mesa, AZ 85210
480-730-1440

Education

Arizona Distance Learning
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Meas, AZ 85211
http://scazdl.org
1-888-722-9351

Arizona Virtual Academy
azvainfo@azva.org
www.azva.org
866-339-4947

Eagleridge Enrichment Program
kctolar@mpsaz.org
www.mpsaz.org/eagleridge
480-472-3685

Southern Utah University
burt@suu.edu
www.suu.edu
435-586-7741

Electrical

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ferrinelectric@yahoo.com
Mesa, AZ 85204
480-892-1995

Entertainment

AZ Dance Break DJ Services
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www.azdancebreak.com
602-821-8839

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www.arizonavanilla.com
480-396-4552

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casketsandmoreaz@qwest.net

Lakeshore Mortuary
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www.LakeshoreMort.com
www.DignityMemorial.com
480-838-5639

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Logos, Brochures, Ad Layout, etc.
LTGraphics@cox.net
480-988-2271

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www.sheriskelton.com
602-795-0810

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Southwest Urgent Care
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www.AdvantageUrgentCare.com
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home Improvements

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Vintage Granite
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www.vintagegranite.com
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Hospitals

Mountain Vista Medical Center
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Mesa, AZ 85209
480-354-5630
www.MVmedicalcenter.com

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Allstate Insurance Company
swingenfeld@allstate.com
http://agent.allstate.com/swingenfeld/
623-581-0374

Brent Henningson's Allstate Insurance
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Mesa, AZ 85206
480-830-0046

Farmers Insurance
1423 S. Higley #125
Mesa, AZ 85206
480-835-1301
www.Farmers-AZ.com

Kimball Porter – State Farm Insurance
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480-892-1779
www.kporterinsurance.com

Smith Insurance
waynesmith@allstate.com
480-464-8766

The BEEHIVE Business Directory

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tdc@finestdiamonds.com
www.finestdiamonds.com
480-507-0506

Dickson's Jewelers
54 W. Main St.
Mesa, AZ 85201
480-964-5822

Landscaping

Sonoran Springs Landscaping
jeron_h@yahoo.com
www.azsprings.com
602-332-1512

Lawyers

Hawkins & Hawkins, PLLC
1930 N. Arboleda, Ste. 216
Mesa, AZ 85213
480-325-9950

Ivy N. Voss, Attorney at Law
vossivy@cox.net
www.vossbusinesslaw.com
480-678-6776

Lodging

Double B Lodge
1075 E. White Mountain Blvd.
Pinetop, AZ 85935
DoubleBLodge.net
1-888-295-5257

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Medical Equipment & Supplies

Medical Super Center
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email: thopkinsdevelop@aol.com

Missionary

Pomeroy's Missionary Store
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Passport Health – Vaccinations
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www.passporthealth.com
480-645-6800

Mortgage

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www.mesamortgage.com

US Mortgage Source
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Gilbert, AZ 85233
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www.classactperformingarts.com

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Arizona Bridal Photography
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480-834-1400
b@brandtphoto.net

Tami Webb Photography
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www.tamiwebb.com
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